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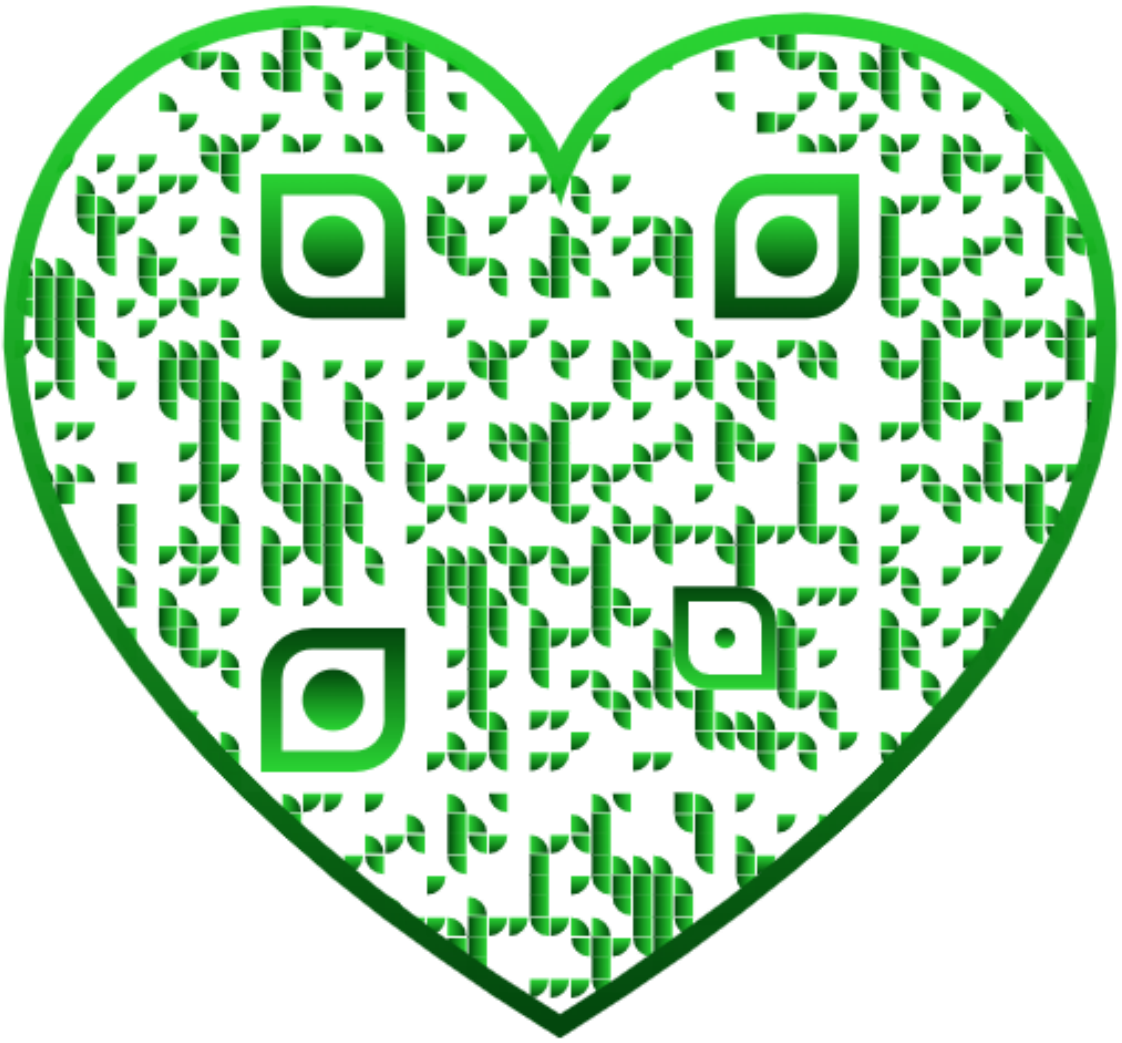
NME FESTIVAL GUIDE 2017

WHERE TO GO. WHO TO SEE. HOW TO PARTY.



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NME

Hello...

THE FIRST FESTIVAL I EVER went to was Glastonbury '98. It pissed down. Mud everywhere. I had the time of my life.

On the Friday night, me and my starry-eyed teenage pals started in the new bands tent watching Gorky's Zygotic Mynci then Ian Brown (both stretching the idea of 'new'), before marching towards the main stage for Primal Scream. Twenty minutes into what seemed a left-field but excellent set, we realised we'd lost our marbles and were watching Portishead.

The rest of the weekend was more of the same. Brilliant but baffling on every level, all spent with the best friends I'd ever met and all soundtracked by the best music. It ended perfectly on the Sunday afternoon as the clouds broke for the first time and Bob Dylan sang 'Blowin' In The Wind'.

Festivals are a rite of passage, an experience like no other and the opportunity to expand your mind and discover new music like nowhere else. Here's to festival season.

MIKE WILLIAMS
Editor-in-Chief
@itsmikelike

The *NME* review of the Lydia Ainsworth album p48

COVER STORY

17
The NME Festival Guide 2017
Big ones. Quirky ones. City ones. Cheap ones. Blow-the-budget ones. European ones. Your summer of way too much fun is almost here

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COVER PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES, REX FEATURES

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AGENDA

WHAT EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT THIS WEEK

New direction

Harry Styles is teasing the launch of his solo career

HARRY STYLES, WHO REMAINS PART OF ONE 'ON HIATUS' Direction, has dropped a short but dramatic trailer teasing his long-awaited debut solo single (out April 7). It's 30 seconds long. There's a bit of smoke. Harry's hair looks nice and neat. Styles has been writing songs with Snow Patrol's Johnny McDaid, who wrote 'Shape Of You', among other Ed Sheeran mega bangers. Last year McDaid said that Styles' solo material would "blow the socks off the world", which is a genuinely delightful image.

PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES

A selection of moody stills from Harry Styles' solo single trailer

Vodafone is the UK's #1 network for voice

As independently tested by P3 Connect.

Four major UK networks tested
21st September – 4th October 2016.

Vodafone
Power to you

Vodafone is the UK's #1 network for voice: the 'BEST IN TEST' seal is awarded by P3 Connect. P3's annual testing reflects the results of network performance assessed independently between 21st September and 4th October 2016, where four operators were tested in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Coverage may vary. For verification, see vodafone.co.uk/network

Gorillaz (l-r): Russel Hobbs, Noodle, 2D and Murdoc Niccals

Planet of the apes

Damon Albarn and Jamie Hewlett's cartoon band Gorillaz are back with new album 'Humanz' and it's chocker with magnificent guests. Get to know them

VINCE STAPLES
Guests on: 'Ascension'.
Who? 23-year-old US rapper from California, Odd Future collaborator.
His best work: 'Norf Norf', from ace 2015 album 'Summertime '06'.

PEVEN EVERETT
Guests on: 'Strobelite'.
Who? Smooth and slick R&B funk lord who hails from Chicago.
His best work: The mighty 'Stuck', from 2006.

POPCAAN
Guests on: 'Saturnz Barz'.
Who? Jamie xx and Drake collaborator, reggae-fusion maestro.
His best work: 'I Know There's Gonna Be (Good Times)' with Jamie xx and Young Thug.

DE LA SOUL
Guest on: 'Momentz'.
Who? True originators and hip-hop veterans.
Their best work: The all-time classic 'Me Myself And I'.

DANNY BROWN
Guests on: 'Submission'.
Who? The most unique and terrifying Detroit rap export since Eminem.
His best work: 'Ain't It Funny', from 2016's 'Atrocity Exhibition'.

KELELA
Guests on: 'Submission'.
Who? Genre-bending R&B queen with fans including Björk and Solange.
Her best work: Silly-good 2015 single 'Rewind'.

GRACE JONES
Guests on: 'Charger'.
Who? Androgynous icon, musical visionary and Bond girl badass.
Her best work: 1981's funk disco classic 'Pull Up To The Bumper'.

D.R.A.M.
Guests on: 'Andromeda'.
Who? Rapper whose full title is Does Real Ass Music.
His best work: 'Broccoli', his 2016 collab with Lil Yachty.

ANTHONY HAMILTON
Guests on: 'Carnival'.
Who? Grammy-winning US soul man.
His best work: 'Freedom', which you may remember from the soundtrack of *Django Unchained*.

MAVIS STAPLES
Guests on: 'Let Me Out'
Who? A heaven-sent gift to soul music and bona fide legend.
Her best work: The Staple Singers' 1972 classic 'I'll Take You There'.

PUSHA T
Guests on: 'Let Me Out'.
Who? Formerly of the duo Clipse, now burning up the road to rap glory on his own.
His best work: 'Drug Dealers Anonymous', featuring a Jay Z guest spot.

ZEBRA KATZ
Guests on: 'Sex Murder Party'.
Who? Purveyor of the darker, more alternative side of rap.
His best work: 'Ima Read' – his sinister, danceable, ace 2012 single.

JAMIE PRINCIPLE
Guests on: 'Sex Murder Party'.
Who? House hero.
His best work: The seminal and massively influential 'Your Love'.

KALI UCHIS
Guests on: 'She's My Collar'.
Who? Singer, director, producer, renaissance woman.
Her best work: 2015's addictive banger 'Rush'.

BENJAMIN CLEMENTINE
Guests on: 'Hallelujah Money'.
Who? Mercury-winning piano troubadour.
His best work: 'Cornerstone', which is quite lovely.

JEHNNY BETH
Guests on: 'We Got The Power'.
Who? Fearless French Savages singer.
Her best work: 2014 single 'F**kers'.

NOEL GALLAGHER
Guests on: 'We Got The Power'.
Who? Was in Oasis.
His best work: 'Don't Look Back In Anger'.

'Humanz' is out on April 28

WORDS ANDREW TRENDELL. PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES, REX FEATURES

GOOD WEEK

EMMA WATSON
On course to be the highest-earning actress of 2017, ahead of Jennifer Lawrence. Magic!

GARY BARLOW
Confirmed his cameo in *Star Wars: The Last Jedi*. The Empire Strikes Back For Good.

MILLIE BOBBY BROWN
Cancelled a Comic Con appearance because she needs to "rest". Even Eleven gets tired.

JOHN LYDON
Fans questioned his punk credentials when he spoke out for Nigel Farage and Donald Trump. No future.

BAD WEEK

PHOTOS: JEFFERSON ATIBA, REX FEATURES

Back to the future

After their 2014 performance on the *Late Show With David Letterman* went viral, Future Islands' world blew up. As they gear up to release fifth album 'The Far Field', Samuel T. Herring talks survival…

SITTING AT THE TOP OF a flight of stairs, with the winter night air blowing in through the backstage fire exit, Samuel T. Herring takes a distracted drag on a cigarette. It's five minutes after Future Islands' first European show in 18 months, and it wasn't quite what the singer had planned.

A couple of hours before showtime at Copenhagan's Jazzhouse, he came down with food poisoning – "a dodgy piece of sandwich meat" – so spent the gig concentrating not on the new songs they were debuting, but on not throwing up on stage.

Not that the 300 people at the intimate show would've known. Herring lunged, growled and stalked his way through the performance of 'Seasons (Waiting On You)' with the same spectacular moves that caught so many people's attention on the *Late Show with David Letterman* in 2014. "I'll be OK," he says afterwards, looking pale. "I just need a minute."

The trio are used to waiting for their moment. After *Letterman*, they say many people thought they were a new band. In fact, they started out 14 years ago as the ludicrously named Art Lord & The Self Portraits. Then they formed Future Islands,

Future Islands (l-r): William Cashion, Gerrit Welmers, Samuel T. Herring

moved to Baltimore and released three excellent but underground albums. By the time that TV moment came along, they'd slept on countless mates' floors, played 800 shows and made their breakthrough album 'Singles' without a record label.

But their TV appearance changed everything. "That's still a surreal moment," says Herring. "It's crazy that people are still talking about it. The biggest challenge is hoping it doesn't become a defining moment. You want to push past that, but it's undeniable what it's done for us, and we're proud of it. At 30, we finally got our spotlight moment."

Relishing their new-found audience, they didn't so much grab the opportunity as tackle it to the floor. They were used to playing, but the success 'Singles' brought was another level. They toured for 22 months, playing over 250 gigs, picking up famous fans like Noel Gallagher and Blondie along the way. But the brutal schedule took its toll, particularly on Herring, who collapsed from exhaustion at least once on the road. The band took their first break in almost 10 years.

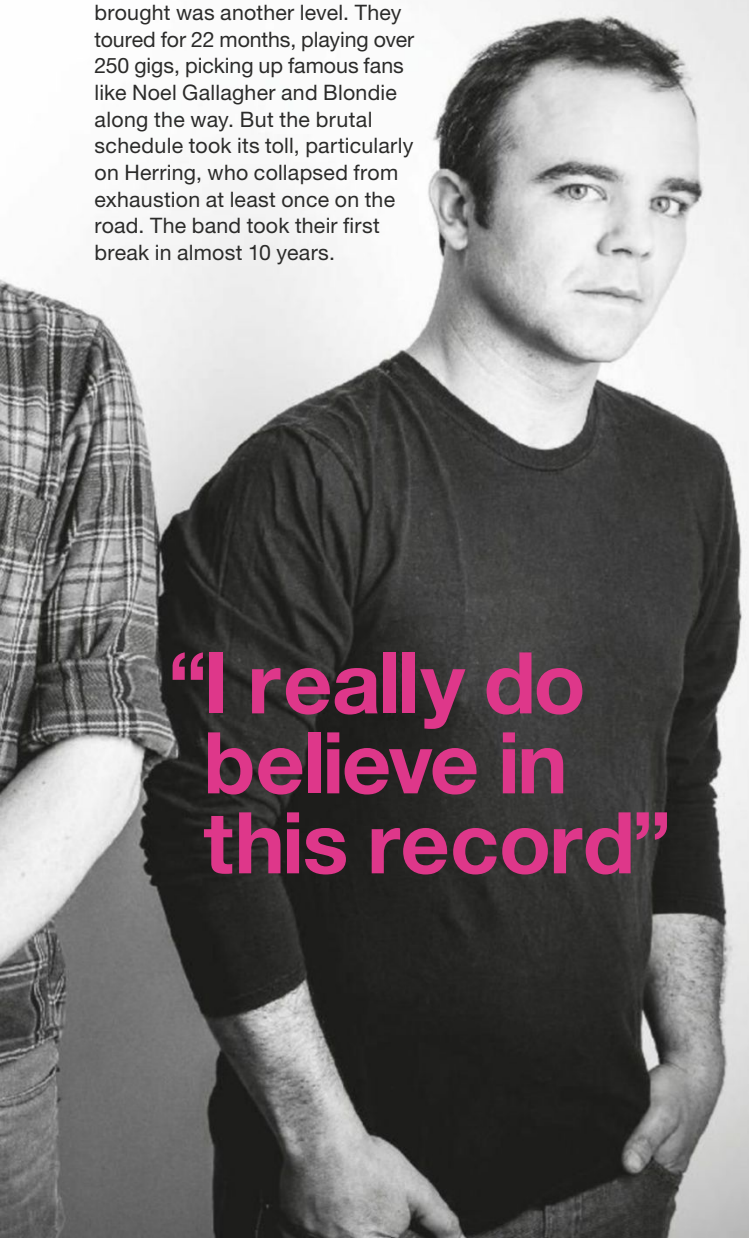
Returning home was odd. There was some normality for bandmates William Cashion (bass) and Gerrit Welmers (keys), both in long-term relationships, but Herring found himself back at his apartment "alone in my room". He'd been gone for two years and life was different. His own relationship hadn't worked out. "Not having that, I was like: 'Why am I here?'" he says. "I could be anywhere in the world. Being on the road feels more like home, as I know on the road I mean something to people. On the road, I have purpose."

Herring is a devastatingly honest guy. When it comes to discussing his feelings openly "the filter came off" years ago. Like in his lyrics, in person, Herring is confessional, compassionate and disarmingly trusting. He's sensitive, too, taking to heart the band's press ("I'm not usually amused that I'm like Barry from *EastEnders* or things like that"). But Herring's willingness to be vulnerable is his greatest strength. On tracks like 'Light House', from the 2014 album 'Singles', he's written about depression and his own suicidal contemplations. People have "gravitated towards" his honesty, he says.

There's hardship to be found on new album 'The Far Field', like on lead track 'Ran' and standout moment 'Through The Roses', a song written on a lone car journey ("*trying to cool off, get away from my own mind*"). It's a melancholy record you can dance to. But perhaps more heart-warming is the story of the band themselves. For the first time in their career, they've made music knowing loads of people are waiting to hear it. "'Singles' taught me that a record could bring so much more than you expected," says Herring. "With most things in life, I try to keep expectations low so I'm not disappointed. But I really do believe in this record. Hopefully it's a home for a lot of people."

Greg Cochrane

Future Islands' new album 'The Far Field' is out April 7



"I really do believe in this record"

For your ears

Essential Future Islands tracks

WAVE LIKE HOME *2008*
A maniacal 100mph Wurlitzer ride of quirk-driven synth-rock. A sign of the greatness to come.

ON THE WATER *2011*
Herring wears his heart on his sleeve for this glittering, elegiac gem.

SEASONS (WAITING ON YOU) *2014*
The instant feelgood classic that changed everything. We challenge you to listen without punching the air.

RAN *2017*
Another perfect amalgamation of Bruce Springsteen, The Killers and a whole lot of bravado.

For your body

Learn to dance like Samuel T. Herring

HIT THE SKY
Move like you could punch God in the face.

WE AIN'T NOTHIN' BUT MAMMALS
Beat your chest to unleash your inner caveman.

THE SHIMMY
Spread your legs, crouch to your lowest point of gravity and glide from side to side.

FEELIN' MYSELF
Run your hand through your hair as you pulsate with sheer sex.

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Terms apply. Which? surveyed 4,000 people using 12 UK mobile networks. giffgaff was one of a few networks that did so well, they named us a Which? Recommended Provider (3rd year running).

Cillian Murphy as Tommy Shelby

Adrien Brody is joining the show

Sneak peek

Shooting for *Peaky Blinders* series four started last week. We know things…

THE STREETS OF LIVERPOOL HAVE HAD A VINTAGE MAKEOVER

The yellow road lines have been obscured, there are vintage cars lining the roads and some classic advertising billboards are filling the streets with 1920s Birmingham vibes.

BIRMINGHAM IS NEXT

According to the *Birmingham Mail*, filming could also take place at the Black Country Living Museum in Dudley in May. It will be transformed into Charlie Strong's scrap metal yard, the place where Tommy Shelby stores his illegal goods.

TOMMY SHELBY'S GOT A GUN…

OK, sure, Tommy Shelby quite often has a gun. But it's reassuring to know his life is still full of glamorous violence.

…AND A LETTER

Series four will begin with Tommy receiving a letter on Christmas Eve that sparks concerns the Blinders are in danger. He flees his country home and returns to Birmingham to prepare for a war. Then, all hell breaks loose.

SEASON FOUR WILL GO BIG ON THE 1920S

Creator Steven Knight says: "I want to shine the light on the 1920s and hopefully the 1930s, making it a true between-the-wars family story. I want the family trajectory to continue upwards and for them to become wealthier and more powerful. The only thing I want is for Tommy to be knighted."

TOM HARDY WILL BE BACK

Knight: "He was very keen to return. He's an actor in high demand, but he made sure he'd be available for *Peaky Blinders*."

SAMUEL L. JACKSON WANTS TO BE IN IT

He told the *Daily Star*: "I'd love to be in it. That's a great show." So maybe. *The Pianist* star Adrien Brody will definitely be in it.

THERE'LL BE BOXING

The show held an open casting call, with posters emerging in Birmingham gyms saying they wanted: "Male boxers aged 18-25 years old from the West Midlands for a pivotal role in the new series which starts filming in the spring. Must be a confident boxer and physically fit."

IT'LL BE OUT IN THE AUTUMN

Probably. Season three took four months to film and three to edit. So if this season comes together in *exactly* the same way, autumn.

WORDS: NICK HARRIS. PHOTOS: REX FEATURES

Last W33K IN NUMBERS

1994
The year Vince Vaughn applied for the role of Joey Tribbiani in *Friends*, but lost out to Matt LeBlanc.

15
Minimum number of years they're gonna keep making *Star Wars* films for.

7
Months the cast of Channel 4's *Eden* spent living in the Scottish wilderness, unaware it had been taken off air.

2
Age of this toddler who went viral for looking exactly like Ed Sheeran.

LADY GAGA

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11 OCT LONDON THE O2

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12 OCT BIRMINGHAM GENTING ARENA

15 OCT BIRMINGHAM BARCLAYCARD ARENA
17 OCT MANCHESTER ARENA

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WITH LEONIE COOPER

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THIS WEEK

We are all sad Brad Pitt listening to Bon Iver

Justin Vernon (inset) is the plaid-clad king of the break-up ballad

POOR BRAD PITT. POOR extremely wealthy, highly beautiful, outrageously talented Brad Pitt. Because despite his charmed Hollywood existence and dashing, chiselled features, the actor is just like you and me.

In the wake of his divorce from Angelina Jolie, Brad, 53, is hurting and he's hurting bad. Tabloid reports have revealed he's dealing with his vast array of painful emotions by listening to a sad songs playlist filled to the brim with gloomy Bon Iver tunes, while vaping and working on a sculpture project. Oh Brad, we've all been there – well, maybe not the sculpture project. And definitely not the vaping. But the heartache? The soul-sapping feeling of utter emptiness? The long, sleepless nights and constant thinking? Sure. Who hasn't been dumped and then immediately reached for the glummest tunes possible so they can wallow in their misery and take minor comfort in the fact that someone, somewhere out there, feels the same way?

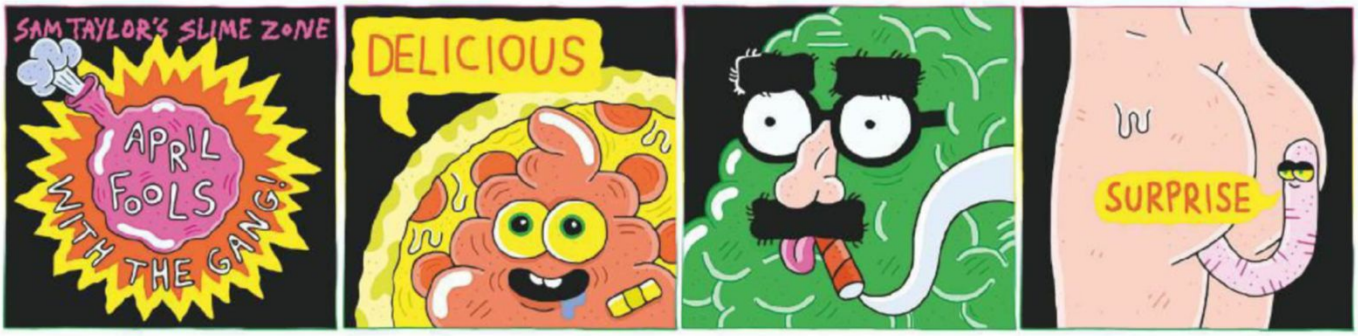
There are many options when it comes to artists to soundtrack a split – from Adele to Nick Cave to Kanye West – with a strong case to be made for just putting on a whole load of classic country music, a genre in which literally all songs are about being dumped or drinking too much whiskey on a bayou. Once, Dido's perfectly anodyne 'White Flag' came on Magic Radio after I'd just been ditched and my goodness, I don't think I've ever been as upset since.

Yet Bon Iver – the millennial, plaid-clad king of the break-up ballad – has been Brad's rather more tasteful tearjerker. Bon Iver's Justin Vernon made his name a decade ago with his debut album 'For Emma, Forever Ago'. It's an exceptional record, but one that's basically 37 minutes of a grown man sat in a shed crying, 'But whhyyyyy?' Brad's low-key, sensitive fanboying of Justin Vernon hasn't escaped the man himself, who tweeted a response upon discovering he's been helping an A-lister through his heartbreak. "Cool," he wrote. "Someone get Brad at me, I guess? We should talk."

"Who hasn't been dumped then reached for the glummest tunes?"

We can picture it now: Justin in his snuggliest woollen jumper, stoking the fire in the cabin in the woods and pouring Grey Goose into a pair of tumblers, awaiting the arrival of a very sad Brad. Then, in the distance, a motorcycle engine can be heard. It is, of course, the leather-clad movie star, who's ridden through the night from LA to seek solace in Justin's warm heart and words of wisdom. As Brad comes through the door, Justin places a hand on his shoulder – a hand blistered from brandishing an axe and chopping down trees all day – but a hand that understands. Brad sheds a single tear. Brad will get through this. We all will. ***@leoniemaycooper***

PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES, REX FEATURES



THINGS WE LIKE

THIS WEEK'S OBJECTS OF DESIRE

Star man
Show your love for David Bowie's 2016 album 'Blackstar' with this T-shirt.
£15.99 *in-store and hmv.com*

Badass boots
1990s slacker icons Beavis and Butt-Head adorn the latest DMs.
£125 *drmartens.com*

Bag it up
Eastpak's oxblood padded leather backpack is sturdy yet chic.
£140 *selfridges.com*

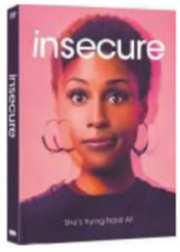
Top notch
Body positive illustrator Camilla Engstrom has worked on a line of cute tees.
£10 *monki.com*

Thirsty work
Jarr Kombucha drink comes in original, ginger and passionfruit flavour.
£6.50 *jarrkombucha.com*

Boxing clever
Start feeling all tropical with these Hawaiian print pants.
£20 *saxxunderwear.com*

Cult classic
Vans' latest drop is a throwback to its simple 1960s style.
£55 *vans.co.uk*

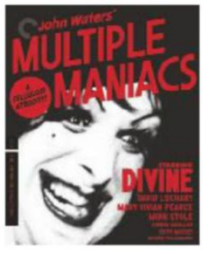
Light your fire
Celebrate 50 years of The Doors' debut with a new deluxe release.
£39.99 *amazon.co.uk*



Safe bet
Grab the DVD of ace LA-set comedy *Insecure*, masterminded by Issa Rae.
£24.99 *amazon.co.uk*

Stoned love
Sport The Rolling Stones' iconic logo on this timeless T-shirt.
£15.99 *in-store and hmv.com*

Love them
Pick up a classy The 1975 shirt and make like Matty Healy.
£15.95 *nmemerch.com*



Trash to treasure
Cult director John Waters' 1970 film *Multiple Maniacs* is now available on Blu-ray.
£17.99 *zoom.co.uk*

Super stitch
Wrangler has issued this lush embroidered jacket to celebrate its 70th anniversary.
£230 *asos.com*

Feet first
Aussie brand P.E. Nation has collabed with Reebok Classic for this sick sneaker.
£69 *pe-nation.com*

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YOUR TOWN. YOUR MUSIC. YOUR STYLE

What's on your Headphones?

THIS WEEK

Farnham

JACOB HOWARD ›

20, camera shop assistant

Listening to:
WOLF ALICE
You're A Germ
"It's absolutely crazy live. So much fun."

Wearing: Zara jacket, Pull&Bear shirt, River Island jeans, Puma trainers.
Best thing about Farnham: "The pubs."

‹ CIARA GOLDFINCH

24, bartender

Listening to:
MAC DEMARCO
Boe Zaah
"It's a really good song to chill out to."

Wearing: Levi's denim jacket, vintage jumper, H&M jeans, Superga trainers, homemade necklace.
Best thing about Farnham: "It's got a cute village vibe, but there's still enough to do."

‹ ALICE BALL

18, sales assistant

Listening to:
KENDRICK LAMAR
I'm Dying Of Thirst
"He's got such an amazing range. None of his songs ever sound the same."

Wearing: Cardigan from Camden Market, H&M jeans, Puma trainers.
Best thing about Farnham: "Farnham Park is a nice, quiet spot to hang out with friends."

PHOTOS: EMMA VIOLA LILJA

JOSEPH PALMER ›

19, student

Listening to:
WE WERE EVERGREEN
Best Thing
"It makes me happy. The frontman's got a great voice."

Wearing: Denim shirt from a charity shop, Ralph Lauren shirt, H&M jeans, Vans trainers.
Best thing about Farnham: "It's a really pretty town."

LATITUDE

JULY 2017, HENHAM PARK, SUFFOLK

GENTLEMEN OF THE ROAD TAKEOVER

FRIDAY 14TH JULY | SATURDAY 15TH JULY | SUNDAY 16TH JULY

THE OBELISK ARENA

FRIDAY 14TH JULY
THE 1975

GOLDFRAPP

THE HORRORS

TINARIWEN

THE JAPANESE HOUSE

SATURDAY 15TH JULY
MUMFORD & SONS

WITH SPECIAL GUEST **BAABA MAAL**

SPECIAL GUEST TBA

GLASS ANIMALS

MILKY CHANCE

LUCY ROSE

THE VERY BEST

SUNDAY 16TH JULY
FLEET FOXES

JOHN CALE

THE DIVINE COMEDY

GRANDADDY

MAVIS STAPLES

WARD THOMAS

BALOJI

BBC MUSIC STAGE

PLACEBO

RIDE

THE HEAD AND THE HEART

JACK GARRATT

SOHN

A BLAZE OF FEATHER

FATBOY SLIM

LOYLE CARNER

MOUNT KIMBIE

DECLAN McKENNA / FORMATION / HER / IBIBIO SOUND MACHINE / JULIA JACKLIN / KALEO

KAREN ELSON / LEMON TWIGS / LISA HANNIGAN / MAGGIE ROGERS / SYLVAN ESSO

THE RADIO DEPT. / TOM GRENNAN

COMEDY

DARA Ó BRIAIN / KATHERINE RYAN / SIMON AMSTELL

SEANN WALSH / ANDY PARSONS / CHRIS RAMSEY / JOEL DOMMETT / TIM KEY

DOM JOLY / ANGELOS AND BARRY / SUSAN CALMAN / ANDREW MAXWELL / BARRY CRIMMINS

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MARCUS BRIGSTOCKE PRESENTS PRINCEFEST / ROBIN INCE'S FESTIVAL SHAMBLES / FUNZ AND GAMEZ

PAPPY'S FLATSHARE SLAMDOWN / CHARLIE BAKER IS THE HIT POLISHER / MY DAD WROTE A PORNO

Plus much more to be announced!

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THE NME FESTIVAL GUIDE 2017

Big ones. Quirky ones. City ones. Cheap ones. Blow-the-budget ones. European ones. Your summer of way too much fun is almost here

Big ones

They're massive, they're in the UK, and all your pals are probably going

The Pyramid Stage, Glastonbury

READING & LEEDS

Richfield Avenue, Reading and Bramham Park, Leeds
AUGUST 25-27

GO FOR: The soundclash. R&L pack more rock, rap, metal, skate punk, dance, grime and grunge into a stroll-able space than any other UK festival – it's like your Spotify history went camping. Add students getting A-starred off their faces and people pole-vaulting through bonfires and you've got one wild-ass party.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: Muse, Kasabian, Eminem, Two Door Cinema Club, Major Lazer, Haim.
DON'T MISS: Reading & Leeds have always been the place to check out exciting new acts; this year, make sure you don't miss Cabbage. Fresh from the VO5 *NME* Awards Tour, the Stockport vagabonds will run rampant.
TOP TIP: "Keep your ear to the ground for news of secret sets. In the past they've had the likes of Green Day, Jamie T and You Me At Six. This year rumours abound that Weezer will be making a surprise appearance" – Jenny Jones, *NME* reader.

ISLE OF WIGHT

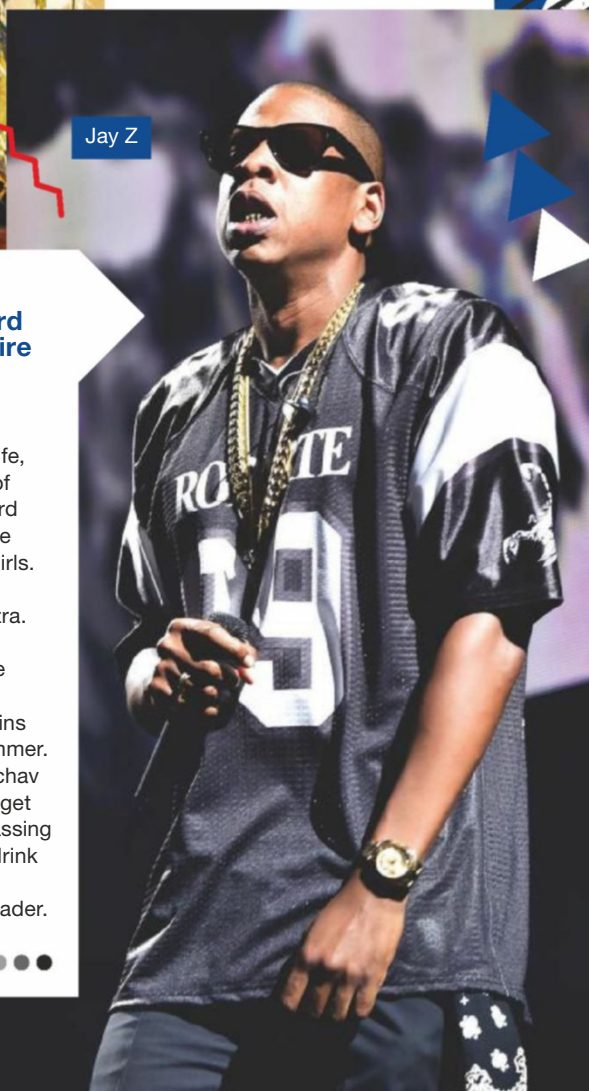
Seaclose Park, Newport
JUNE 8-11

GO FOR: The distant scent of Jimi Hendrix. The festival has morphed from out-and-out nostalgia-fest to heritage shindig to this year's mash-up of EDM and Radio 2 mainstays, but the flower power aesthetic of the 1970 Jimi jaunt has been a constant.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: David Guetta, Run-DMC, The Kooks.
DON'T MISS: Arcade Fire – the Canadian indie collective's UK return is IOW's biggest draw.
TOP TIP: "There's always something to keep you entertained. From poetry to world music or disco dancing, you'll never get bored. Seek and you shall find" – John Giddings, organiser.
COST: £195 for a weekend adult ticket, including camping.

GLASTONBURY

Worthy Farm, Pilton
JUNE 21-25

GO FOR: The experience, maaan. Glastonbury, the dirty-fingernailed granddaddy of all festivals, is the weirdest, wildest, hippest and hippiest place on the planet, an entire tented city of hedonistic abandon, spiritual discovery and psychedelic quinoa cocktails.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: Foo Fighters, Radiohead, Ed Sheeran.
DON'T MISS: Kris Kristofferson – the Sunday heritage slot always draws an ocean of dopamine-ditzy drunkards ready to sing along to any '70s kitsch country classic. Result: one helluva hoedown.
TOP TIP: "On at least one night, sack off the headliners and get down the naughty corner [Unfairground, Block, Shangri-La etc] early before the queues start" – CarsmileSteve, freakytrigger.co.uk.
COST: £238, including camping.



Jay Z

V FESTIVAL

Hylands Park, Chelmsford & Weston Park, Shropshire
AUGUST 19-20

GO FOR: The pop. Once where Britpop went for its annual parklife, V has morphed into the festival of Grimmy's dreams, a smörgåsbord of chart-friendly offerings and the spiritual home of Scouting For Girls.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: P!nk, Rudimental, Stormzy, George Ezra.
DON'T MISS: Jay Z, one of the greatest festival headliners in the world today. Assuming he's not psychologically destroyed by twins by then, it'll be the set of the summer.
TOP TIP: "Embrace your inner chav and hit the champagne bar. You get to feel infinitely superior to the passing rabble for as long as it takes to drink the one glass of bubbly you can afford" – Jemma Morris, *NME* reader.
COST: £189 for a weekend ticket, including camping.

V FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 19 AUGUST ◦ HYLANDS PARK
SUNDAY 20 AUGUST ◦ WESTON PARK

P!NK

RUDIMENTAL
CRAIG DAVID
JESS GLYNNE
GEORGE EZRA

SATURDAY 19 AUGUST ◦ WESTON PARK
SUNDAY 20 AUGUST ◦ HYLANDS PARK

JAY Z

PETE TONG PRESENTS IBIZA CLASSICS
PERFORMED BY THE HERITAGE ORCHESTRA
CONDUCTED BY JULES BUCKLEY

ELLIE GOULDING
STORMZY
EMELI SANDÉ

ALSO APPEARING ACROSS THE WEEKEND...

JASON DERULO ◦ MADNESS ◦ STEVE AOKI
SEAN PAUL ◦ DIZZEE RASCAL ◦ SIGMA LIVE ◦ JAMES ARTHUR
CLEAN BANDIT ◦ GORGON CITY LIVE ◦ THE WOMBATS ◦ ANNE-MARIE
HANNAH WANTS ◦ KREPT & KONAN ◦ THE VAMPS ◦ JACK SAVORETTI
BUSTED ◦ JP COOPER ◦ ELLA EYRE ◦ EXAMPLE & DJ WIRE ◦ JONAS BLUE
THE WAILERS ◦ SCOUTING FOR GIRLS ◦ RAYE ◦ CALUM SCOTT

PLUS MANY MORE ARTISTS TO BE ANNOUNCED!

FRIDAY 18 AUGUST 2017 ◦ BBC RADIO 1 STAGE

WESTON PARK* ◦ STAFFORDSHIRE

CHASE AND STATUS DJ SET
ANNIE MAC
DUKE DUMONT ◦ DISCIPLES
DANNY HOWARD ◦ MISTAJAM

HYLANDS PARK ◦ CHELMSFORD

ANNIE MAC
WILKINSON LIVE
NETSKY LIVE
RITON FEAT. KAH-LO ◦ ICARUS

*LIVE BBC RADIO 1 BROADCAST FROM WESTON PARK

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BESTIVAL
Lulworth Estate, Dorset
SEPTEMBER 7-10

GO FOR: The hedonism. Bestival is where you go to tell the summer in no uncertain terms that it hasn't finished yet. This year the site moves from Isle of Wight to the Lulworth Estate, but it'll still be a mind-bending parade of love-bots, electro cruise liners and all-out debauchery conducted by boggle-eyed Mad Hatters aplenty.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: The xx, Pet Shop Boys, A Tribe Called Quest, Justice, Jamie T.
DON'T MISS: Bestival creates the world's biggest versions of things – mirrorballs, bouncy castles, Lionel Richie heads – and this year they'll fire off a massive confetti cannon. Eat that, Coldplay.
TOP TIP: "Make sure you dress up for fancy-dress Saturday or you'll feel like an idiot" – Tom Smith, *NME* Editorial Assistant.
COST: £181, including camping.

DOWNLOAD
Donington Park, Leicestershire
JUNE 9-11

GO FOR: The rock, obviously. The epicentre of all things banging of head, exposed of tongue and horned of fist, Download is a metaller's paradise, where the longhair tribes of Britain leave the safety of their specialist black-windowed small-town pubs and convene to get their faces melted off by riffs that, on a good day, are hotter than the heart of the sun.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: System Of A Down, Biffy Clyro, Aerosmith, Slayer.
DON'T MISS: Aerosmith – you'll never believe a saggy beanpole draped in your nan's old '60s clothes could strut so majestically.
TOP TIP: "The folk at Download are probably the friendliest festival crowd on the planet, so don't be afraid of getting a little rough in the moshpit" – Andrew Trendell, *NME* Senior News Reporter.
COST: £215 for adult weekend ticket, including camping.

LATITUDE
Henham Park, Suffolk
JULY 13-16

GO FOR: The sophistication. While *Guardian*-friendly leftfield acts play the main stages, Barbican members swarm to smaller areas to watch opera or engage in literary debate. Lagered philistines, worry not: come nightfall the p**sed students take over the woodland raves.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: The 1975, Mumford & Sons, Fleet Foxes, Goldfrapp.
DON'T MISS: Ballet on the lake.
TOP TIP: "Get to the In The Woods stage before the crowds cotton on that some major name is doing a secret after-hours set there. You could get Thom Yorke fiddling with boxes; you could get something brilliant. It's a lottery." – Mark Beaumont, *NME* writer.
COST: £179.50, including camping.

And there's more...

GREEN MAN
Brecon Beacons, Powys
AUGUST 17-20
DON'T MISS: Get your alt-folk fill with Ryan Adams, Conor Oberst, Angel Olsen and lashings of real ale.
COST: £180.

END OF THE ROAD
Larmer Tree Gardens, Wiltshire
AUG 31-SEP 3
GO FOR: The finest Americana and alt-country; Father John Misty headlines.
COST: £189.

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the Lizard Wizard
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Loyle Carner
Methyl Ethel
Moderat
Mura Masa
Nicolas Jaar
Nina Kraviz
Omar Souleyman
PC Music presents
Danny L Harle,
A. G. Cook &
Hannah Diamond
Rae Morris
Run the Jewels
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Silver Apples
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Thee Oh Sees
Whitney
and many more

MILO

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FIELD DAY

Also featuring VILLAGE MENTALITY
STREET FEAST VENN STREET MARKET
LONDON BREWER'S MARKET

THE WAREHOUSE PROJECT PRESENTS...
PARKLIFE
10TH-11TH JUNE 2017
HEATON PARK Manchester
THE 1975
FRANK OCEAN
BOY BETTER KNOW
A TRIBE CALLED QUEST
JESS GLYNNE
TWO DOOR CINEMA CLUB
FATBOY SLIM
CARL COX
STORMZY
DAMIAN 'JR GONG' MARLEY
GEORGE EZRA
LONDON GRAMMAR
FLYING LOTUS
CHAKA KHAN
ERIC PRYDZ
ABOVE & BEYOND
ANDY C
DJ EZ
JAMIE JONES
SETH TROXLER
THE MARTINEZ BROTHERS
RAG'N'BONE MAN
ANDERSON .PAAK & THE FREE NATIONALS
ZARA LARSSON
LITTLE DRAGON
WILEY
SAMPHA
GIGGS
MURA MASA
ELROW PRESENTS FAR WEST
DANNY BROWN
ADAM BEYER
JOSEPH CAPRIATI
DIXON
OLIVER HELDENS
HANNAH WANTS
MAYA JANE COLES
DUSKY
JORIS VOORN
DAVID RODIGAN
HOT SINCE 82
JACKMASTER
KÖLSCH
BICEP
PATRICK TOPPING
PETE TONG
SKREAM
ARMAND VAN HELDEN
FLOATING POINTS SOLO LIVE SET
JON HOPKINS DJ
JAGWAR MA
RATBOY
NAO
LOYLE CARNER
TOM MISCH LIVE
LEVELZ
MOODYMANN
THE BLACK MADONNA
FATIMA YAMAHA
GOLDIE INFLUENCES
WILKINSON DJ
YOUSEF
RICHY AHMED
NOISIA DJ
TODDLA T & COCO
SOLARDO
GERD JANSON
MIDLAND
HUNEE
MIND AGAINST
REJJIE SNOW
J HUS
CRAZY P LIVE
AJ TRACEY
WAZE & ODYSSEY
ARTWORK
MONKI
HYPE & HAZARD
MY NU LENG
P MONEY
MICK JENKINS
JOE GODDARD LIVE
ALEXIS TAYLOR HOT CHIP PRINCE TRIBUTE
DENIS SULTA
JASPER JAMES
PREDITAH
CABBAGE
RAYE
JAPANESE HOUSE
CONGO NATTY
HORSE MEAT DISCO
ROMARE LIVE
DJ CRAZE
NASTIA
NADIA ROSE
STEFFLON DON
MOXIE
NIGHTMARES ON WAX
NORMAN JAY MBE
THE HEATWAVE
BONZAI
MELE
DUB PHIZIX & STRATEGY
WILLIAM DJOKO
DEKMANTEL SOUND SYSTEM
HAMMER
REX ORANGE COUNTY
DE LA SWING
MARC MAYA
KRYSTAL KLEAR
KLOSE ONE
MAX CHAPMAN
JACKY
THEO KOTTIS
FAKEAR
LAUREN LO SUNG
CONDUCTA
JAMZ SUPERNOVA
PRESIDENT T
ABRA CADABRA
GEORGE PRIVATTI
ELLIE COCKS
ELLIOT ADAMSON
NORTH BASE
VENUM SOUND
RICH REASON
KRYSKO
GREG LORD
PIRATE COPY
JONNY DUB
WILL TRAMP
ZUTKEH DJS
PETE ZORBA
JAMES ORGAN
HACKETT
NICOLA BEAR
NOW WAVE DJS
LEE DRAKE
OLLI RYDER & LUKE WELSH
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Quirky ones

Behold three highly unusual gatherings of the masses

SECRET SOLSTICE

Laugardalur, Reykjavik, Iceland
JUNE 16-18

GO FOR: The midnight sun. Themed around ancient sun-worshipping religions, Secret Solstice has only 40 minutes of 'night' at 2am every day. Plus, there's a venue inside a glacier, hot pools and volcanoes nearby and 2017 sees the unveiling of the Lava Tunnel, an underground crystal grotto hosting acoustic sets. The sort of place Frodo Baggins might have gone bonkers after his A-levels, basically.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: Foo Fighters, The Prodigy, Rick Ross, Chaka Khan, Big Sean.
DON'T MISS: Richard Ashcroft – what could be more dreamlike in such magical environs than 'Bittersweet Symphony' drifting across a sun-dappled glacier at 1am?
TOP TIP: "There's a swimming pool next to the festival site. Nothing beats starting the day at the pool, limbering up sore muscles from the day before" – bwibbwz, visitingiceland.com.
COST: £189, camping not included.

The Lava Tunnel at Secret Solstice

SECRET GARDEN PARTY

Abbots Ripton, Huntingdon
JULY 20-23

GO FOR: The final fling. SGP has been the professional hedonist's lost weekend of choice since 2004, and now Head Gardener Fred Fellowes has called time on the mother of all fancy (un)dress parties, declaring 2017 the farewell bash. Expect the regulars to give it a send-off to make Charlie Sheen blush.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: Metronomy, Crystal Castles, Toots & The Maytals, Wild Beasts, Jorja Smith, Ray BLK.
DON'T MISS: Peaches – the one-woman encapsulation of the spirit of the festival, she'll bring SGP to a fittingly salacious climax.
TOP TIP: "Take a towel so you can go skinny-dipping in the on-site lake. Or in your pants if you must" – Leonie Cooper, *NME* Senior Staff Writer.
COST: £190 for a weekend ticket, inc. camping.

TOMORROWLAND

Boom, Belgium
JULY 21-23 AND 28-30

GO FOR: The spectacle. Fast becoming Europe's biggest dance festival, Tomorrowland is what *Being John Malkovich* would've been like if it'd been about Noel Fielding instead. Previously arenas were done out like psychedelic carnivals and jungle paradises. This year's theme is Amicorum Spectaculum – your guess is as good as ours.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: Armin van Buuren, Marshmello, David Guetta.
DON'T MISS: The Chainsmokers – *NME*'s recent cover stars are the hottest DJ duo on the bill. Chris Martin might even show up to bound around like a hyperactive puppy (again).
TOP TIP: "For the full Tomorrowland experience, stay at Dreamville. It's close to the festival and the party never stops" – Mynn Lee, blogger.
COST: £281 for a 'full madness' pass, which (we think) covers the entire weekend.

7-9 JULY 2017

wireless

FINSBURY PARK LONDON

FRIDAY 7 JULY

CHANCE THE RAPPER

BRYSON TILLER // G-EAZY

SPECIAL GUEST

FETTY WAP FEAT. MONTY

ZARA LARSSON // POST MALONE // FLATBUSH ZOMBIES

LIL DICKY // BIG NARSTIE // GEKO // NONAME // NEF THE PHARAOH

SATURDAY 8 JULY

SKEPTA

SPECIAL GUEST

TRAVIS SCOTT // RAE SREMMURD

YOUNG THUG // SEAN PAUL // LIL YACHTY // WILEY

SECTION BOYZ // YUNGEN // DAVE // MOSTACK // CADET

JEZ DIOR // THE AGE OF L.U.N.A // BIG TOBZ // YOUNG T & BUGSEY

SUNDAY 9 JULY

THE WEEKND

NAS // TORY LANEZ

TY DOLLA $IGN // WIZKID // LIL UZI VERT // TYGA

DESIIGNER // BUGZY MALONE // HILLTOP HOODS

MIKE SKINNER & MURKAGE PRESENT TONGA // STEFFLON DON

YUNA // AJ X DENO // KOJO FUNDS // ABRA CADABRA // TOPAZ JONES

HOSTED BY DJ CHARLESY // TIM WESTWOOD

NEW ACTS ANNOUNCED! GET TICKETS NOW // WIRELESSFESTIVAL.CO.UK

SUBJECT TO CONTRACT // BILL SUBJECT TO CHANGE

UK city ones

All the fun, but with a nice cheap hotel to crawl back to at the end of the day

Justin Bieber

Wiley

WILDLIFE
Brighton City Airport
JUNE 9-10

GO FOR: The urban jungle. Besides a heavy dance presence in the shape of Fatboy Slim, Pete Tong and Eric Prydz, Wildlife – the brainchild of Disclosure and Rudimental – draws together one of the most comprehensive bills of grime, neo soul, future funk and classic soul-pop (hello, Chaka Khan) of the summer.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: Stormzy, JME, Jess Glynne, Dizzee Rascal.
DON'T MISS: Wiley – go see why the grime godfather was a worthy winner of *NME*'s Outstanding Contribution To Music award in 2017.
TOP TIP: "The site is miles from the station. Study the shuttle bus details or land yourself with a hefty cab bill" – Chris Prince, *NME* reader.
COST: £115.50 for a weekend ticket.

BRITISH SUMMER TIME
Hyde Park, London
JUNE 30-JULY 9

GO FOR: The tailored line-ups. BST isn't your average mash-up of disparate acts chucked at a line-up in the hope some of it sells tickets. It's a series of huge outdoor gigs from major acts with specifically selected and relevant supports. So no having to sit through Ellie Goulding to save your space for Queens Of The Stone Age here.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: The Killers, Kings Of Leon, Green Day, Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers, Justin Bieber.
DON'T MISS: Pixies – it sure is brave of Kings Of Leon to book the Boston proto-grunge indie-rock pioneers as their main support, since they'll not just blow the rest of BST off the stage, they may well find Marble Arch in Iceland by the end of their set.
TOP TIP: "Avoid the closest Tube stations after the gigs cos they'll be packed; instead, have a lovely mooch through Knightsbridge to a quieter station" – Alex Flood, *NME* Staff Writer.
COST: Prices vary per day – please check official ticket sites.

PARKLIFE
Heaton Park, Manchester
JUNE 10-11

GO FOR: 1990's Spike Island/Manc enthusiasm lives on at Parklife, the city's alt-pop extravaganza. But it's all about Stormzy and BBK rather than The Stone Roses in 2017.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: The 1975, Frank Ocean, Jess Glynne.
DON'T MISS: Frank Ocean – one of only two UK shows so far announced by the most celebrated modernist R&B star of his generation.
TOP TIP: "Head to the student areas to hunt out an after-party – you'll be buzzing for hours after it finishes" – Caz Troughton, *NME* reader.
COST: £131 for a weekend ticket inc. travel pass.

Foals

CITADEL
Victoria Park, London
JULY 16

GO FOR: The kudos. East London's Victoria Park is the UK's prime hipster hive, and the festivals held there are generally high in cult cred. The Citadel one-dayer may not be quite as leftfield as Field Day, but it brims with casually cool acts (Marling, Kiwanuka, Bonobo) and, coming from the people behind Wilderness, should have food stalls to rival the best Peckham pop-ups.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: Maggie Rogers, Bonobo, Wild Beasts, Laura Marling, Michael Kiwanuka.
DON'T MISS: Foals – it's the Oxford post-math pioneers' only UK festival date of 2017, and it's a rare headline set indeed that's both wildly popular and at the cutting edge of alt-culture.
TOP TIP: "Citadel is a mellow Sunday festival, so instead of heading to an after-party, most people will hit the Tube. Stay out for a pint in Homerton, Hackney Wick or Bethnal Green to avoid the rush" – Larry Bartleet, *NME* Staff Writer.
COST: £55.25 for an adult ticket.

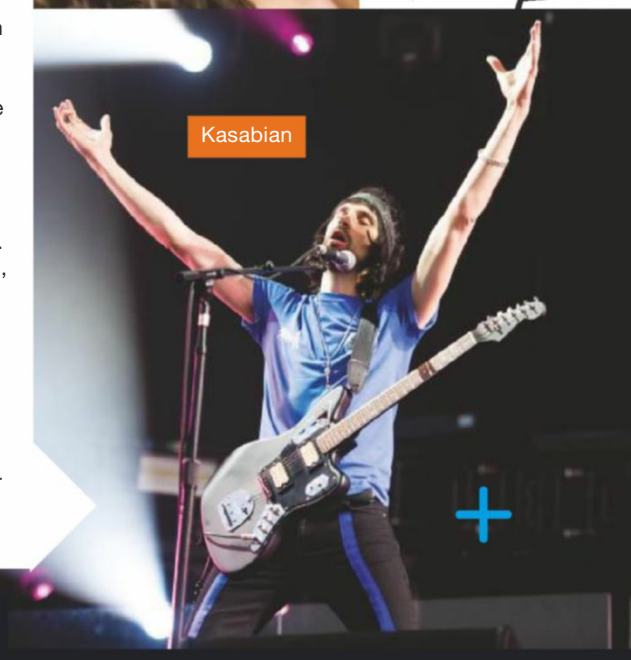
HMLTD

THE GREAT ESCAPE
Various venues, Brighton
MAY 18-20

GO FOR: The thrill of the new. The Great Escape gathers 400 of the best up-and-coming acts in the UK, plus a few big names, into 30-odd venues in Camden-On-Sea for three days, and then unleashes upon them a rabid pack of A&Rs, agents, labels and new-music lovers hunting out their next favourite band. It's basically the 6Music playlist you can get drunk at.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: Slaves, Rag'n'Bone Man, Cabbage, Cosima, HMLTD, Ray BLK, Sløtface.
DON'T MISS: HMLTD – amid all the scowling alt-rock and po-faced neotronica, here's a bunch of S&M generals, sex goths and dandy highwaymen putting on provocative electro-glam gigs where they even orchestrate the *smell* of the room.
TOP TIP: "Make it a weekend of random discoveries. It's easy to spend most of your time waiting in line to see the more popular bands" – Danny Jones, *NME* reader.
COST: £60 for a three-day ticket.

TRNSMT
Glasgow Green
JULY 7-9

GO FOR: The Balado memories. T In The Park is taking a break following the, to be frank, massive balls-up of its move to Strathallan Castle and the cancellation of 2017's festival. The T team has booked some of rock's hugest names to take to Glasgow Green and stir up wistful flashbacks to Buckfast-by-the-bucket Ts gone by.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: Radiohead, Kasabian, Biffy Clyro, The 1975, Catfish And The Bottlemen.
DON'T MISS: Kasabian – back on a self-proclaimed mission to "save guitar music from the abyss", this will be one of their opening assaults.
TOP TIP: "Book your Airbnb now to avoid having to sleep in Morrisons' car park" – Barry Nicolson, *NME* writer.
COST: £155 for a weekend ticket.


Kasabian

And there's more...

FIELD DAY
Victoria Park, London
JUNE 3
GO FOR: The hipster cred. From Aphex Twin to Flying Lotus and a re-formed Arab Strap, Field Day is the fest for those deeply In The Know.
COST: £64.50.

TRAMLINES
Various venues, Sheffield
JULY 21-23
GO FOR: Sheffield Rock City. The Libertines and Primal Scream lead an indie invasion of the home of Alex Turner.
COST: £46.20.

LOVEBOX
Victoria Park, London
JULY 14-15
GO FOR: The love-in. It's a pansexual pop party with Frank Ocean and Solange providing boudoir grooves.
COST: £126 for a two-day ticket.

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BRITISH SUMMER TIME
Hyde Park

FRIDAY 30 JUNE 2017

Phil Collins
NOT DEAD YET LIVE!

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

Blondie

Mike + The Mechanics

THE NEW POWER GENERATION
KC & THE SUNSHINE BAND | STARSAILOR
CHAS & DAVE | GEYSER FT. AL MURRAY | CATS IN SPACE

SATURDAY 1 JULY 2017

GREEN DAY
REVOLUTION RADIO TOUR

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

RANCID

GOGOL BORDELLO | THE HIVES
THE DAMNED | THE STRANGLERS
THE LIVING END | THE ORWELLS
BASH & POP | JESSE MALIN | BEACH SLANG | SMWRS | SUNFLOWER BEAN | PUBLIC ACCESS TV

SUNDAY 2 JULY 2017

JUSTIN BIEBER

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

MARTIN GARRIX
TOVE LO | ANNE-MARIE
PLUS MORE TO BE ANNOUNCED

THURSDAY 6 JULY 2017

KINGS OF LEON

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

Pixies

Nathaniel Rateliff & The Night Sweats

FRIGHTENED RABBIT
DEAF HAVANA | LOCAL NATIVES
TOM GRENNAN | THE CACTUS BLOSSOMS
SAINT MOTEL | BENJAMIN BOOKER | BILLY RAFFOUL

SATURDAY 8 JULY 2017

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TUE 18 **BIRMINGHAM***
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THEKLA

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Budget ones

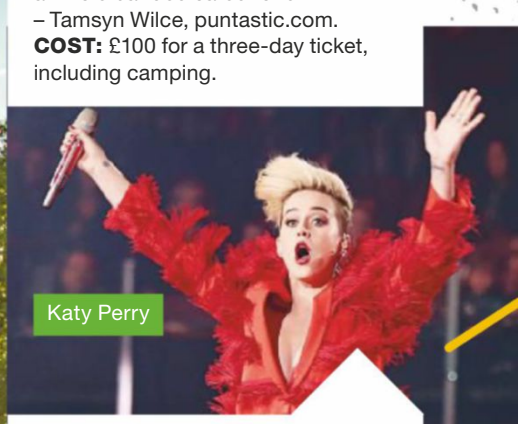
Low funds doesn't have to mean low fun

KENDAL CALLING
Lowther Deer Park, Cumbria
JULY 27-30

GO FOR: The boutique feel. With the likes of Bestival and Latitude having outgrown their boutique roots and Secret Garden Party calling it a day after 2017, Kendal Calling is becoming the UK's prime source of intimate woodland sets, real ale areas, high-end street food, costume themes (this year: Carnival Of Colour) and random on-site oddities. Check out the candy house, the performance art ladies with the lampshades for heads and the full-sized TARDIS. Full-sized on the outside, that is.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: Stereophonics, Manic Street Preachers, Frank Turner & The Sleeping Souls, Franz Ferdinand.
DON'T MISS: Brian Wilson – performing 'Pet Sounds' in full in the UK for possibly the last time, Wilson might only be an onstage figurehead these days, but his masterpiece will turn Kendal into a soggy, mint-flavoured mess.
TOP TIP: "The real ale tent does deals on beer that you don't get in the main arena bars. Was it three pints for a tenner?" – Comfortablynumb1910, efestivals.com.
COST: £135, including camping.

2000TREES
Upcote Farm, Withington, Gloucestershire
JULY 6-8

GO FOR: The hugs. This Cotswolds indie-punk treasure is renowned as one of the friendliest festivals in the UK – the anti-T In The Park, if you will.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: Slaves, Lower Than Atlantis, Mallory Knox.
DON'T MISS: Honeyblood – this Scottish alt-rock duo proved themselves the next big guitar thing with their second album 'Babes Never Die'. Expect around 237 trees to remain after their devastating set.
TOP TIP: "If you fancy yourself as a bit of a pirate, then hit the Rumbrella, a whole bar dedicated to rum." – Tamsyn Wilce, puntastic.com.
COST: £100 for a three-day ticket, including camping.



Katy Perry

RADIO 1'S BIG WEEKEND
Burton Constable Hall, Hull
MAY 27-28

GO FOR: The pop dazzle. The biggest names in Chartland come together at a different location every year to perform their biggest hits for legions of squealing fans.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: Little Mix, Kings Of Leon, Stormzy.
DON'T MISS: Katy Perry – after one of her dancers dressed as a building fell off the stage at the Brits this year, we're hoping her latest hit 'Chained To The Rhythm' will bring the house down. Sorry.
TOP TIP: "Time your toilet trips carefully – all the acts play short sets, so you could miss your faves entirely if you're not careful" – Ella Reid, *NME* reader.
COST: Free.

Survive the festival season with Coleman

Smashing the festival season starts at the campsite. Here are a few crucial tips to think about before you pack the car and head off to party all summer long

1 INVEST IN YOUR TENT
Coleman's new Kobuk Valley 4 Plus tent has the ideal combo of low weight and a compact pack size. Advanced weather protection knocks cheap pop-ups out of the park and its patented BlackOut Bedroom technology blocks 99 per cent of daylight for decent sleep at all hours.

2 PICK THE PERFECT PITCH
Location is key to a decent camping experience, so think wisely before you hammer the pegs in. Settling in by the main stage may seem like a good idea, but noise and well-trodden paths will make your campsite a muddy mess, and pitching at the bottom of the hill runs the risk of water running straight down into your tent. And we don't need to tell you to avoid the toilets.

3 TAKE SOME HOME COMFORTS
Don't rough it – sleep soundly with Coleman's luxurious Comfort Bed Single Airbed, or their toasty Basalt Sleeping Bag.

4 BENEFIT FROM BYO
To make your cash go further at festivals, bringing your own snacks and booze is always a winner. Coleman's 50QT Xtreme Wheeled Cooler keeps contents cool for up to five days, as well as being easily transportable from your car to the campsite. Cold beers all round, then.

5 GIVE CAMPSITE COOKING A TRY
The Coleman FyreStorm PCS will cook up your one-pot meals in no time – leaving you better off in your pocket, and less likely to require a mad dash to the toilets.

6 ANTICIPATE THE GREAT BRITISH SUMMER
It will rain. Then the sun will come out. Then it will rain again. So pack macs, wellies and a nice big bottle of sun cream.

7 NIGHTTIME NAVIGATION
Add a head torch, such as the Coleman CHT+100, to your list of essentials – you'll be glad you did when you're stumbling through a sea of tents at the end of the night.

BLACKOUT BEDROOMS

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Want to win everything you need to make the most of this year's festival? Head to NME.com/win

Coleman

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FUJI ROCK FESTIVAL

Naeba Ski Resort, Yuzawa-cho, Japan
JULY 28-30

GO FOR: The spiritual mountain retreat experience. The first event in 1999 was set at the foot of Mount Fuji; ever since, the world's biggest rock stars have trekked halfway up Mount Naeba to play at the serene festival.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: Aphex Twin, LCD Soundsystem, Lorde, Queens Of The Stone Age, The xx.
DON'T MISS: Björk – if the place itself didn't already have a surreal, otherworldly atmosphere, wait until Iceland's sci-fi priestess turns up.
TOP TIP: "Take the Dragondola cable car to the top of the mountain, where you can look down on the festival from a mind-blowing viewpoint" – *Escapism* magazine.
COST: 43,000 yen (about £311) for a weekend, without parking or camping.

LOLLAPALOOZA

Grant Park, Chicago
AUGUST 3-6

GO FOR: The cityscape. Once a travelling emo, punk and hardcore circus kicking up choking clouds of wall-of-death dust across America, in 2005 it settled permanently in Chicago and now offers an eclectic line-up of rock, rap, dance and pop before a backdrop of skyscrapers.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: The Killers, Chance The Rapper, Arcade Fire, The xx, Lorde, Justice.
DON'T MISS: Muse – they may not, in a festival environment, be able to roll out their entire 'Drones' tour show, complete with inflatable Reaper drone, but they'll damn well try.
TOP TIP: "The northside of the grounds is filled with trees and shade, and the southside is like a desert. Whenever you can, see a show on the northside of Grant Park" – Andy Koval, 93XRT radio.
COST: Around £266 for a four-day ticket – there's no camping.

ROCK IN RIO

Barra Olympic Park, Rio de Janeiro
SEPTEMBER 15-17 AND 21-24

GO FOR: Duh. It's in Rio. That this 30-year-old Brazilian behemoth draws together the biggest names in pop and classic rock is by-the-by.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: Justin Timberlake, Maroon 5, Aerosmith, Bon Jovi, Red Hot Chili Peppers.
DON'T MISS: Lady Gaga – Rio is famed for its carnival, so who better to entertain than pop's most colourful performer?
TOP TIP: "Lapa's Scenarium is a club set in an old prop store. There's live samba on the bottom floor, a club in the middle and nooks to sip on a caipirinha in further up" – Barry Monk, *NME* reader.
COST: Tickets go on sale April 6 and previous years have been priced at roughly £90 per day.

Lady Gaga

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KINGS OF LEON

ARCADE FIRE

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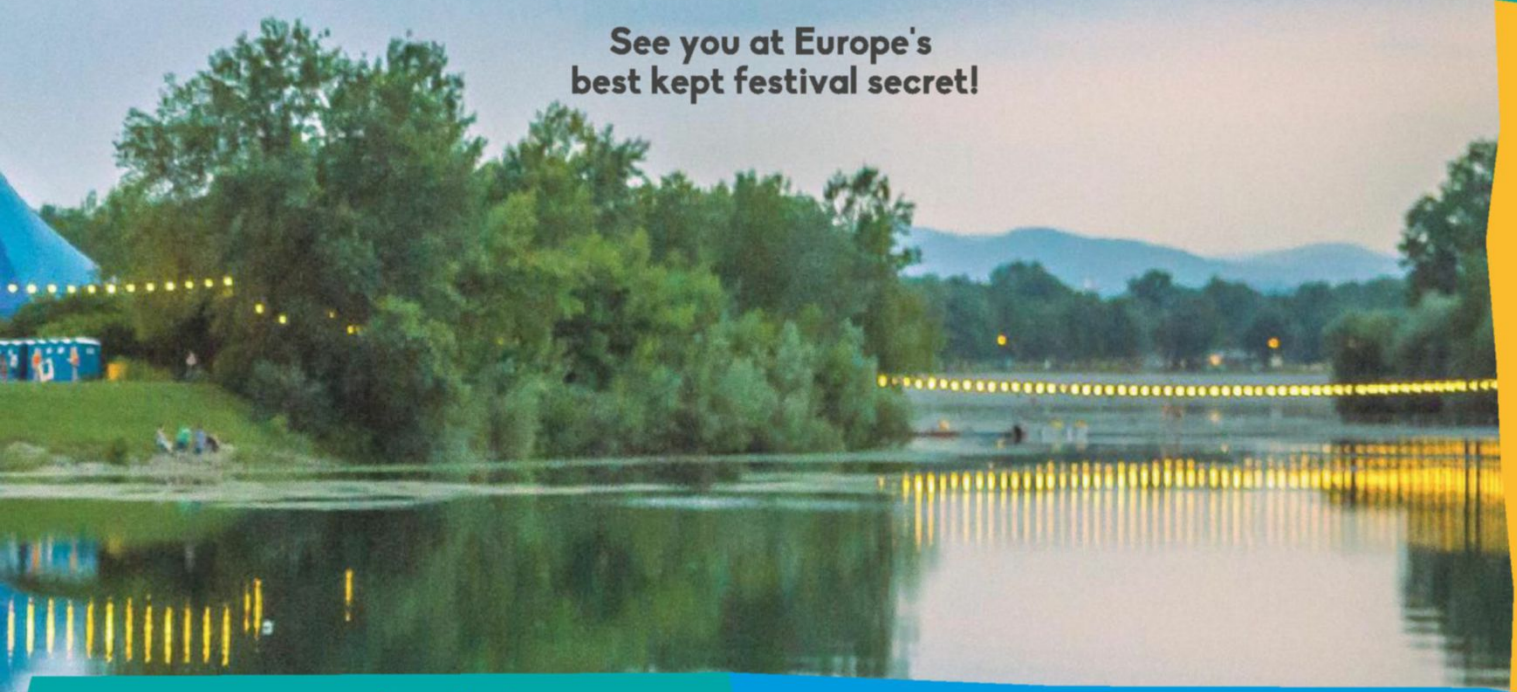

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European ones

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BENICASSIM

Costa Azahar, Spain

JULY 13-16

GO FOR: The all-nighters. Benicassim is the ideal festival destination for 24-hour party people; bands play from sunset to sunrise and everyone goes to the beach during the day because it's too hot to sleep. Just clear your diary for a recovery fortnight and dive in.

LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: Red Hot Chili Peppers, Foals, Kasabian, The Weeknd.

DON'T MISS: Liam Gallagher – it's one of the first shows the ex-Oasis swagger-monkey announced for his solo invasion and he's out to prove he can sing Noel's songs better than him. It'll be one of the year's essential (Lennon) spectacles.

TOP TIP: "Kip on the beach cos your tent will be a furnace, then rent a sunlounger at the crack of dawn (they go quick, trust me) and snooze all day long, ready for action in the evening" – Tom Howard, *NME* Deputy Editor.

COST: £149 for a four-day ticket including camping.

Kings Of Leon

INMUSIC

Lake Jarun, Zagreb, Croatia

JUNE 19-21

GO FOR: Indie-rock thrills. Where other festivals have gone for a more eclectic line-up, Croatia's scenic lakeside INmusic shindig has leapt straight for the guitar jugular. We believe the phrase is 'bosh'.

LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: Michael Kiwanuka, Kasabian, Arcade Fire, Alt-J, Slaves.

DON'T MISS: Kings Of Leon – Nashville's renowned experts on incendiary intercourse are back with a return-to-form seventh album 'WALLS' that will undoubtedly mean – wooo-oo-oooah – their sets are on fire.

TOP TIP: "We spent our day by the lake, drinking breakfast beers and swimming" – Loumagou, Tripadvisor.com.

COST: £60 for a weekend ticket, camping not included.

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BEAUREGARD

7 to 9 July

HÉROUVILLE-SAINT-CLAIR (CAEN)

Line-up: Foals, Phoenix, Placebo, Metronomy, Editors, Iggy Pop, Grandaddy, Echo & The Bunnymen, Jagwar Ma...

CABOURG MON AMOUR

28 to 30 July

CABOURG BEACH

Line-up: Loyle Carner, Parcels, Princess Nokia, Cigarettes After Sex, Shame...

GREEN HORSE FESTIVAL

7 to 9 July

MAUQUENCHY RACECOURSE

Line-Up: Martin Garrix, Dimitri Vegas & Like Mike, Roger Hodgson (Supertramp), Imany, Calypso Rose...

HELLO BIRDS

30 June to 2 July

ETRETAT BEACH

Free festival!

PETE THE MONKEY

13 to 15 July

SAINT-AUBIN-SUR-MER

Line-Up: Agar Agar, Los Wemblers De Iquitos, Hugo Mendez (Sofrito Records)…

ROCK IN EVREUX

23 - 24 June

EVREUX RACECOURSE

Line-up: The Prodigy, Machine Gun Kelly, ASGEIR, Jain, Gojira, Austra...

Subject to alteration

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10 reasons to go to INmusic Festival this summer

It's Croatia's best-kept secret, and it's amazing

1 A PINT IS ONLY £2
And what's more, a curry or stir-fry will generally set you back just £3-4.

2 IT TAKES PLACE ON THREE LAKE ISLANDS
This means exclusive beaches in every direction, in a picturesque location just 20 minutes' drive from the centre of Croatia's capital city, Zagreb. Campers also get the option of crossing a 100ft-long pontoon bridge to enter the festival.

3 THE 25,000-STRONG CROWD IS FORMED OF 50 DIFFERENT NATIONALITIES
Making INmusic a truly international party.

4 A WEEKEND TICKET IS CHEAPER THAN A PAIR OF NICE JEANS
£52 for three days. So good. If you want a longer break, you can stay in the campsite for seven days for just £30 more.

5 THE LINE-UP IS TOTALLY SWEET
Headliners: Canadian titans Arcade Fire, Nashville rockers Kings Of Leon. Also on the bill: Michael Kiwanuka, Flogging Molly, Slaves, Public Service Broadcasting and many, many more.

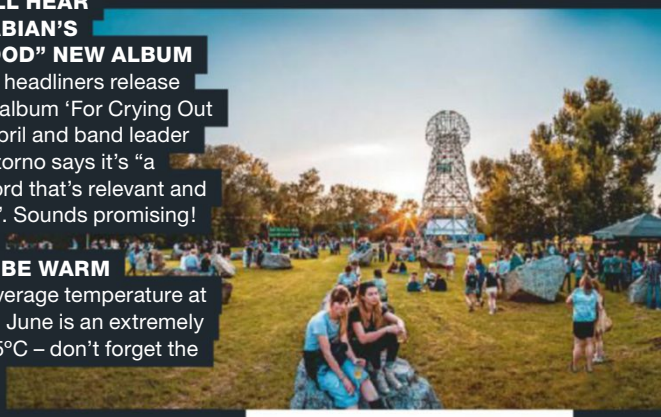
6 IT'S ALT-J'S FIRST GIG IN 18 MONTHS
The Mercury-winning trio are also headlining, and they've been hard at work on their third album. INmusic could be the first place any of it is heard live.

7 YOU'LL HEAR KASABIAN'S "FEELGOOD" NEW ALBUM
The fourth headliners release their sixth album 'For Crying Out Loud' in April and band leader Serge Pizzorno says it's "a guitar record that's relevant and important". Sounds promising!

8 IT'LL BE WARM
The average temperature at INmusic in June is an extremely balmy 24.5°C – don't forget the factor 30.

9 YOUR INSTAGRAM WILL LOOK SICK
Because there's free Wi-Fi at the campsite. More awesome facilities come in the form of free showers and lockers. You'll also find mobile charging stations there – plus, tents and other camping gear are available for rent.

10 YOU WON'T EVER LOSE YOUR CASH
Because the site is cashless. Instead you'll get a top-up card that's easy to use and hard to lose.



The festival's Tesla Tower pays homage to Croatian scientist Nikola Tesla, played by David Bowie in 2006 film *The Prestige*

The details

DATES: June 16-23 (music from 19-21)
LOCATION: Lake Jarun, Croatia
LINE-UP: Kings Of Leon, Arcade Fire, Alt-J, Kasabian, Michael Kiwanuka, Slaves, Public Service Broadcasting and more.
TICKETS: Three-day festival tickets £52. Seven-day camping tickets £30 sold separately.

PHOTOS: JULIEN DUVAL

PJ Harvey

NORMANDY BEAUREGARD FESTIVAL

Château De Beauregard, Normandy, France
JULY 7-9

GO FOR: The continental touch. It's held in the grounds of a palatial château and dotted with acts you may not know are Massive In Europe.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: Foals, Metronomy, Iggy Pop, Die Antwoord, Phoenix.
DON'T MISS: Placebo – considered a ''90s band' in the UK, Brian Molko's mood rockers are revered as godheads in France.
TOP TIP: "A Beauregard Festival ticket entitles you to an £8.65 round trip from any station in Normandy, the Pays de la Loire region or the Dol-de-Bretagne region to any SNCF station" – Festicket.com.
COST: £119 for a three-day ticket, including camping.

SZIGET

Óbudai-sziget, Budapest, Hungary
AUGUST 9-16

GO FOR: The Isle Of Freedom vibe. Located in the middle of the Danube, Sziget – with its traditional Hungarian markets, wide-ranging musical genres and attitude of abandon – has the feel of Glastonbury Island.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: Kasabian, Major Lazer, P!nk, Wiz Khalifa, Two Door Cinema Club, Charli XCX, Danny Brown, The Vaccines.
DON'T MISS: PJ Harvey – catch her black-feathered flounce through 'The Hope Six Demolition Project'.
TOP TIP: "Get lost. A lot like Glastonbury, Sziget is a festival where wanderers are rewarded with all manner of strange and brilliant things to see and do, from a psychedelic mood maze to a wheelchair assault course and a mini beach right on the tip of the island" – Dan Stubbs, *NME* Commissioning Editor.
COST: £299 for a seven-day ticket, including camping.

OPEN'ER

Gdynia-Kosakowo Airport, Poland
JUNE 28-JULY 1

GO FOR: The beach-break festival feel. While many locals camp out at Open'er's vast airfield site with its big wheel, fashion shows and on-site museum, overseas revellers often split their stay – evenings watching the late-night bills of massive international superstars on site (the music runs from 4pm through the night), daytimes glugging mojitos in the beach bars of Gdynia, Poland's very own Saint-Tropez but with a working pirate ship instead of oligarchs' yachts.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: Foo Fighters, The xx, The Weeknd.
DON'T MISS: Radiohead – their downbeat experimentalism will go down a storm in Poland, home of the surrealist monochrome war cartoon.
TOP TIP: "Take a break from watching bands by exploring the rest of the site, including a museum. Then you can leave feeling a little more highbrow while also drinking all of the cheap beer" – Rhian Daly, *NME* writer.
COST: £48-£112.

8 reasons you'd be mad to miss Open'er

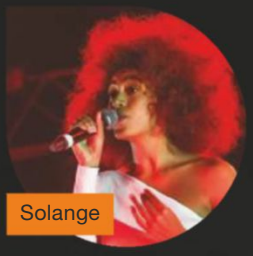
The Polish festival is one of the gems of the European circuit with great bands, cheap tickets and a welcoming atmosphere

1 IT'S GOT THE SAME HEADLINERS AS GLASTO

Missed out on tickets to Worthy Farm? You can still see Foo Fighters and Radiohead this summer and in a much more intimate (and far less muddy) setting at Open'er.

2 CATCH A RARE SOLANGE PERFORMANCE

She made one of last year's best albums in 'A Seat At The Table', but your chances to see Solange re-create that record live are few and far between. So far, she's not announced any UK dates for 2017 so if you're desperate to see her, Open'er is your best bet.



Solange

3 IT'S INCREDIBLY CHEAP

At Open'er, prices are so low it would be silly not to go. Passes for all four days are £112 (£128 with camping), or you can grab tickets for Friday and Saturday for just £74 (£86 with camping). If you just want to pop over for the day, it will only set you back £48.

4 YOU CAN EXPLORE NEARBY GDYNIA AND GDANSK

The music doesn't kick off until the late afternoon, leaving you with plenty of time to explore. Immerse yourself in local history at the Museum Of The City Of Gdynia, stroll through Gdansk's picturesque Old Town or just head to the beaches of Sopot.

Royal Blood

5 YOU CAN SEE ONE OF ROYAL BLOOD'S FIRST SHOWS OF THE YEAR

It's been a long wait for album number two from the Brighton duo, but it's almost here. Mike Kerr and Ben Thatcher will be giving Open'er's audience a little taste of what to expect – we're guessing even more face-melting riffs. Get yourself in the pit.

6 IT'S REALLY EASY TO GET TO

Ryanair and Wizz Air both fly to Gdansk from all over the UK, so no matter where you live it's a breeze. There are regular trains from Gdansk to Gdynia, and from there you can catch a free shuttle bus direct to the festival. Easy peasy.

7 THE ATMOSPHERE IS ELECTRIC

You'll be hard pressed to find a friendlier, more welcoming bunch of festival-goers than those who descend on the Gdynia-Kosakowo Airport festival site. If you're struggling with the language, there'll be someone willing to help you out. Lost your mates? Someone will take you under their wing until you find them.

8 IT AIN'T ALL ABOUT THE MUSIC

Got some time between bands to kill? Open'er has plenty of other things on offer to keep you occupied. Head to one of the theatre tents to get emotional, get chic in the fashion zone, watch a film in the cinema tent or pop on some headphones and dance like nobody's watching at the silent disco.

The details

OPEN'ER
June 28-July 1
Gdynia-Kosakowo Airport
LINE-UP: The Weeknd, Radiohead, Foo Fighters, Solange, James Blake, Royal Blood
TICKETS: £48-£112

PHOTO: REX FEATURES

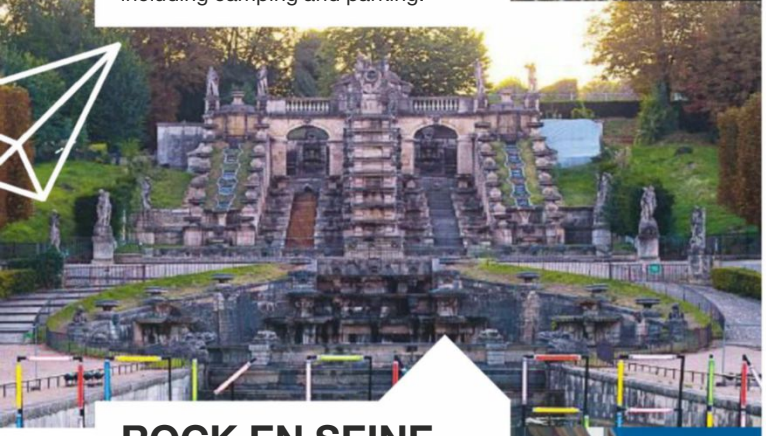
Prophets Of Rage

ROCK AM RING

Mendig Air Base, Mendig, Germany

JUNE 2-4

GO FOR: The intensity. Rock am Ring, alongside its sister festival Rock im Park in Nuremberg, is Germany's Download, so imagine Donington Park with added air-guitaring Germans and flame-throwers and you're pretty much there.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: Rammstein, System Of A Down, Die Toten Hosen, Bastille.
DON'T MISS: Prophets Of Rage – a supergroup formed by members of Public Enemy, Cypress Hill, Rage Against The Machine and Audioslave to protest against Donald Trump, the Prophets may well be the angriest act on site. And that's saying something.
TOP TIP: "If you're buying a burger at a stall and they ask if you want sauce, just throw up the devil horns and scream: 'I'M METAL AS F**K!!!!'" – Wayne, rock-am-ring.com.
COST: £194 for a weekend ticket, including camping and parking.



ROCK EN SEINE

Domaine National De Saint-Cloud, Paris, France

AUGUST 25-27

GO FOR: The romance. Resting insouciantly at the gates of Paris in the Parc de Saint-Cloud, full of fountains, art installations and fairy-lit fauna, it's like going to a gig in *The Bachelor*.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: PJ Harvey, Flume, Franz Ferdinand, Cypress Hill.
DON'T MISS: The xx – having caused stampedes to the Bestival main stage in 2012, the languorous trio are stepping up to headline slots around their third album 'I See You'.
TOP TIP: "There was a record shop at Rock en Seine where you could buy the performing artists' work. You could order the vinyl and then pick it up later." – VickyFlipFlop, blogger.
COST: £103.

NOS ALIVE

Passeio Marítimo de Algés, Lisbon, Portugal

JULY 6-8

GO FOR: The city-break festival feel, meaning you can rock out with the wonders of Lisbon on your doorstep. Plus NOS Alive regularly boasts one of the greatest line-ups in Europe, and 2017's a doozy.
LINE-UP HIGHLIGHTS: Depeche Mode, Foo Fighters, The Weeknd, The xx, Fleet Foxes, Royal Blood, Alt-J.
DON'T MISS: Royal Blood – just as the bruises were fading from the blues-rock beating that the demonic duo gave 2014, they're back to give us further reasons why Mike Kerr's bass guitar should never be played within 100 miles of a tectonic faultline.
TOP TIP: "At the risk of sounding like someone's auntie, the site gets pretty chilly at night so take something warm to wear after the sun goes down" – Charlotte Gunn, *NME* Digital Editor.
COST: £146 for a three-day ticket including camping.

And there's more...

ROSKILDE
Roskilde, Denmark
JUNE 24-JULY 1
GO FOR: Running since 1971, Roskilde has hippy roots that rival Glasto. This year, Foo Fighters, Arcade Fire and The Weeknd play across the event's nine stages.
COST: £232.

FLOW FESTIVAL
Helsinki, Finland
AUGUST 11-13
DON'T MISS: Taking place in an old power plant, Flow is known for its delish food and awesome artists like Frank Ocean and Lana Del Rey.
COST: £185.

PRIMAVERA SOUND
Barcelona, Spain
MAY 31-JUNE 4
DON'T MISS: Boasting one of the best, bravest line-ups of the summer, you can catch everyone from Slayer to Solange.
COST: Day ticket, £80.

PUKKELPOP
Kiewit, Belgium
AUGUST 16-19
Go for: Belgium's biggest fest has scored sets from Mumford & Sons, PJ Harvey, The xx and Bastille.
COST: £199.

NME

PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES, REX FEATURES, JENN FIVE, LAURA PALMER, CHARLES REAGAN HACKLEMAN/LOLLAPALOOZA 2016

ISLE OF WIGHT FESTIVAL 2017

8-11 JUNE

4 HEADLINERS OVER 3 NIGHTS

FRIDAY 9TH JUNE - CO-HEADLINERS

DAVID GUETTA • RUN DMC

KAISER CHIEFS • RAG 'N' BONE MAN • THE PRETENDERS
JONAS BLUE DJ SET • NOTHING BUT THIEVES • ALISON MOYET • WARD THOMAS
LUCY SPRAGGAN • PARADISIA

SATURDAY 10TH JUNE

ARCADE FIRE

CATFISH AND THE BOTTLEMEN • EXAMPLE+DJ WIRE • THE KOOKS
ZARA LARSSON • TEXAS • JACK SAVORETTI • MELANIE C • TOM CHAPLIN
THE SLOW READERS CLUB • SPACE • THE SHOWHAWK DUO • ELLE EXXE
BANG BANG ROMEO • ALEX FRANCIS • THE GERMEIN SISTERS • VICTORIA
THE NOVATONES • THE SECOND SONS

SUNDAY 11TH JUNE

ROD STEWART

BASTILLE • GEORGE EZRA • CLEAN BANDIT • IMELDA MAY
THE SHIRES • THE VAMPS • SCOUTING FOR GIRLS
THE STRYPES • THE UNDERTONES • THE SHERLOCKS • THE AMAZONS
JUDAS • WILD FRONT

+ THURSDAY NIGHT PERFORMANCES FROM
RAZORLIGHT • STARSAILOR • THE ALARM
THE SEX PISSED DOLLS

HOVERTRAVEL · RED FUNNEL · WIGHTLINK

ticketmaster

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RADAR

MUSIC, FILM, TV & MORE – THIS WEEK'S ESSENTIAL NEW RELEASES

Best NEW tracks
And when to drop them

BEST FOR GETTING THE SHIVERS
LONDON GRAMMAR
Truth Is A Beautiful Thing
The title track from the trio's forthcoming album, out June 9, this is heady stuff – cinematic and elegiac but uplifting.

BEST FOR WTF MOMENTS
KASABIAN
Insane In The Brain
An acoustic Cypress Hill cover from Leicester's finest? Why the hell not?

BEST FOR FEELING FIERCE
DAVID GUETTA
Light My Body Up
Mega DJ Guetta brings in the big guns – Nicki Minaj and Lil Wayne – for this high-powered, high-octane EDM/rap belter.

BEST FOR SUNNY DAYS
ZAYN
Still Got Time
The former 1D man goes full Drake with this dancehall-flavoured pop confection.

BEST FOR LATE-NIGHT DRIVES
FUTURE ISLANDS
Cave
Like The War On Drugs doing the *Drive* soundtrack, Future Islands' latest is the finest in electronic pop.

BEST FOR INDIE DISCO DANCEFLOORS
BLAENAVON
Alice Come Home
Indie is safe in the hands of Blaenavon, who are all your Maccabees-meets-Foals dreams come true on this debut album taster.

BEST FOR GYM PLAYLISTS
IGGY AZALEA
Mo Bounce
Go hard to Iggy's squelchy but hard-edged and a little bit rude new tune.

BEST FOR MAKING FRIENDS
GORILLAZ
We Got The Power
What's this, Damon Albarn and Noel Gallagher on the same total f**king banger? It's like the Britpop wars never happened.

BEST FOR FUNKINESS
MR JUKES
Angels/Your Love
Bombay Bicycle Club frontman Jack Steadman ventures out alone as Mr Jukes, a jazzy, snazzy funk badman. His debut solo track features smooth vocals from BJ The Chicago Kid.

BEST FOR TACKLING TRUMP
KENDRICK LAMAR
The Heart Part 4
"*Donald Trump is a chump,*" hollers Kendrick on this incendiary release, while branding himself "*the greatest rapper alive*". Who are we to argue?

KENDRICK LAMAR

FOR MORE NEW MUSIC, GO TO NME.COM

PHOTO: SHAMIL TANNA

The princess of darkness

Toronto artist Lydia Ainsworth gets all gothy on her sublime second album

LYDIA AINSWORTH
Darling Of The Afterglow
★★★★☆
GOTHIC BANGERS SYNTHS

AS THE CLANGING keyboard chords that open 'The Road' ring out like sinister church bells, it's clear that Canadian composer and songwriter Lydia Ainsworth's second album is going to be something very special indeed. Following a spate of recent pop culture nods to a hip new activism-based kind of witchcraft – indie movie *The Love Witch* and Lana Del Rey's anti-Trump spell for starters – this seems to be the sound of lush electronic pop throwing its pointy hat into the ring.

"*Astral mirrors guide the fall / Let's go on and on and on once more*," murmurs Ainsworth, oozing sensuality, strength and supernatural sass over dark, unctuous beats. There are hints of Bat For Lashes' gloom and Chvrches' wondrous way with a synth-driven melody here, but Ainsworth's voice is indelibly her own. 'Afterglow' plugs into the same moody, mystical vibe, while lyrics about "*the queen of angels*" pitch this as a deeply female record, one that carries with it a womanly warmth.

Classically trained, the breadth of Ainsworth's talent is laid bare on 'Darling Of The Afterglow'. As well as towering gothic electropop, we also get stone cold bangers like 'Open Doors'. Boasting a majestic, beat-driven chorus that sounds like Katy Perry guesting on a Yeasayer track, it's a luxuriantly produced track, full of breathy glitches, velvety violins and layer upon layer of intrigue. If you're looking for a song to get utterly lost in this spring, then your search has come to an end.

The same goes for the meditative but massive 'Into The Blue', which has steamy hints of The Weeknd, while 'Spinning' comes over like Kate Bush after pulling an all-nighter at the Warehouse Project. If anything, an aching cover of Chris Isaak's 1990 'Wicked Game' – however beautiful – seems a touch unnecessary, muddling Ainsworth's own vision with someone else's words and melody. Lydia Ainsworth has more than enough talent not to bother with other people's material. **Leonie Cooper**

FOR FANS OF

BAT FOR LASHES

CHVRCHES

(L-r:) Brent Hinds, Bill Kelliher, Troy Sanders, Brann Dailor

Best track

SHOW YOURSELF

The poppiest on the record. It's short for Mastodon, at 3:10, but you'll have it on repeat.

Heavier than hell

ALBUM OF THE WEEK

Riffs, doom, an epic concept – exactly what you'd expect from Mastodon

MASTODON

Emperor Of Sand

★★★★☆

METAL PROG LOUD

METAL NEEDED THIS album. It needed a record that's doomy, heavy and magnificently multilayered, and Mastodon's seventh album is exactly that. "'Emperor Of Sand' is like the Grim Reaper," says drummer/vocalist Brann Dailor about the album's cancer concept, which reflects the band's recent familial losses. "Sand represents time. If you or anyone you know has ever received a terminal diagnosis, the first thought is about time. Invariably you ask, 'How much time is left?' We tend to draw inspiration from very real things in our lives."

The record is as weighty as it sounds. Opener 'Sultan's Curse' employs galloping, brutal riffs and leads you to 'Show Yourself' – the video for which features an inept Grim Reaper trying to kill Mastodon, but only managing to maim a few lookalikes in comedic fashion. These tracks are as proggy as expected, but the emotional outpouring is evident. Being sensitive in metal without sounding twee or parodic is tough, but Mastodon nail it.

There are a few breaks from the magnificent doom, most impressively the breakdown and skirmish in 'Roots Remain', which segues into something akin to a magical crystal cave with its eloquent chimes and drones in the right places. It builds, brilliantly, in a way that mimics the title track from their seminal 2011 record 'The Hunter'.

Mastodon have written the most personal album of their career, and in doing so perhaps their most pertinent too. The chorus of 'Precious Stones' repeats the line *"Don't waste your time, don't let it slip away from you"* and seems to capture the mood of our times perfectly. **Anita Bhagwandas**

PHOTO: JIMMY HUBBARD

How to turn your hidden treasure into a summer of fun

With festival line-ups being released on a weekly basis, you're probably dreaming of a summer spent watching your favourite bands in the sun. But with the average festival costing around £200 a ticket, it's not cheap. All is not lost – it's easy to raise funds by using eBay

YOUR OLD PHONE

When you get a new phone, it's tempting to toss the old one into a drawer and forget about it. Dig it out, because smartphones, such as the iPhone and Samsung Galaxy can still sell for decent money, and more recent models can run into the hundreds. When selling, include three or four photos illustrating the condition of your phone. If you have the charger, make sure it switches on, and include as many original accessories as you can find.

CONSOLES

We all know retro consoles are collectable, but ones you might not consider to be nostalgia pieces – like the Nintendo DS or Sony PSP – might still get you £25 and up, particularly if you have boxes, games and accessories to bundle in. Show everything you're including in photos, and test the console to make sure it works. Some games can get decent prices on their own, so search for titles you're thinking of including and figure out if they're worth listing separately.

YOUR IPOD

If you're the sort of person who once slavishly loaded music onto an iPod classic, you might find that now – with streaming, YouTube and Apple Music – you don't use the old one at all. In fact, Apple stopped making them, which means that they've held their value. Expect to get over £100 for the ones with the biggest storage.

CDS

They won't make you a fortune on their own, but some are worth a surprising amount. Make a dent in your festival fund totaliser by selling a few you can bear to part with. eBay's app makes listing similar items quick and easy, and it will even suggest an auction starting price or a Buy It Now price.

BAND T-SHIRTS

Merch you bought at gigs may be worth more than you think: some official tour T-shirts can reach prices in the hundreds. Generally, the more popular the band and the older the shirt, the higher the price. But that doesn't mean you can't sell your old Arctic Monkeys tees. When selling any clothes, consider getting someone to model them for the photos, and list all the sizing information in the item description.

PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

With millions of buyers ready and waiting, eBay is the perfect place to sell the stuff you no longer need. Visit www.ebay.co.uk/simple-selling to get started

ebay

FILM

All guns blazing

Ben Wheatley's trigger-happy shootout film is a Tarantino-esque bloodbath

PHOTO: REX FEATURES

FREE FIRE
15 ***Sam Riley, Brie Larson, Cillian Murphy, Armie Hammer, Michael Smiley***

★★★★☆

GRUESOME TENSE RATTLING

THANK GOODNESS FOR Ben Wheatley. The mastermind behind modern British film classics *Kill List*, *Sightseers* and *A Field In England* made his name via a wonderfully warped approach that recalled Alfred Hitchcock directing a particularly perverse episode of *The League Of Gentlemen*. It didn't take long for him to catch the eye of the mainstream, and last year a s**t-ton of money was thrown at him to create a confused but stylish adaptation of JG Ballard's dystopian thriller *High-Rise*.

Free Fire marks his first official foray into A-list territory. For a start, the film is set in the States – Boston, to be exact – but was actually filmed in Sussex. There are also big name American actors like Brie Larson and Armie Hammer accompanying Wheatley's gruff, unlikely muse Michael Smiley, *Peaky Blinders*' Cillian Murphy and *Control*'s Sam Riley, suggesting that the film is aiming for some serious box-office business. Wheatley has also softened up his trademark weirdness as a concession to the conventions of the A-list, but there are still plenty of odd thrills – and gruesome moments – to be found here.

Written by Wheatley and his wife Amy Jump, this tense action flick is set in the late 1970s and sees some shady criminals – in fittingly flammable post-disco attire – meeting up in a warehouse to swap lots of money for lots of guns. Unsurprisingly, things do not go to plan. Like a Harold Pinter stage play crossed with a Quentin Tarantino movie, all of the action takes place in the one grimy location. Like Tarantino too, the soundtrack selections are on point, with John Denver's cheesy pop-folk ballad 'Annie's Song (You Fill Up My Senses)' used to stunning effect. If cinematic gunfire is your bag, then this trigger-happy flick will delight and rattle your eardrums in equal measure.

Although *Free Fire* isn't without its flaws – the relentless mocking of a South African character's accent swiftly becomes very dry indeed – the frenetic pace and outstanding gore make for an exhilarating 90 minutes. **Leonie Cooper**

(L-r:) Cillian Murphy, Sam Riley and Michael Smiley

STRANGE BUT TRUE

Ben Wheatley worked out the film's set by using the video game *Minecraft* to build an early layout of the abandoned factory.

Under the RADAR

YOU HEARD IT HERE FIRST

Stefflon Don

Rising MC who wants to be “a mega, mega star”

TOUGH, TALENTED AND about to take over, Stephanie Allen is your new favourite Moschino-clad, rainbow-haired, teetotal rapper. “I don’t want to sound like anyone,” she states of her fiery brand of dancehall-infused hip-hop, which casually landed on an unsuspecting British public last year via her intoxicating, in-your-face mixtape ‘Real Ting’, which features the irrepressibly badass single ‘16 Shots’. “As a female rapper you have to be bossy with it,” she explains of her no-bulls**t, females-first stance, which follows in the feisty footsteps of Lil’ Kim and Nicki Minaj. But she’s not just here to entertain; she’s here to inspire: “I want people to hear me and feel like they can be bold as well.”

Currently an Essex girl, she was one of seven siblings born in Birmingham to Jamaican parents. Raised in Holland on a diet of MTV Base and the reggae her folks played around the house, she headed back to the UK in her teens and followed school with short-lived stints in hairdressing and cake-decorating. One day she decided to ditch the bleach and icing and take music seriously as a career option. “That’s when I found my sound,” she explains. “I was singing R&B before I was rapping and I never really enjoyed it. But when I started rapping I was like, ‘This is sick, I’m actually alright at rapping!’”

Since then there’ve been collaborations with Giggs, Wretch 32 and Lethal B, and ambitions for the future are high. When asked where she sees herself in five years’ time, Stefflon Don has no time for false modesty. “Definitely a mega, mega star,” she grins. “Someone who has the most Grammys ever known to mankind.” Roll on 2022.

Leonie Cooper

“As a female rapper you have to be bossy”

PHOTOS: DERRICK KAKEMBO, GETTY IMAGES, REX FEATURES

FOR FANS OF STRANGE AND TRUE

When she was nine, Stefflon Don recorded her first rap feature with a Dutch artist who was mates with her dad. “It sounded like ‘Hard Knock Life’ by Jay Z,” she says.

The details

FROM: Essex
SOCIAL: @stefflondon
BUY: Her ‘Real Ting’ mixtape is out now
LIVE: London Tape (April 6)

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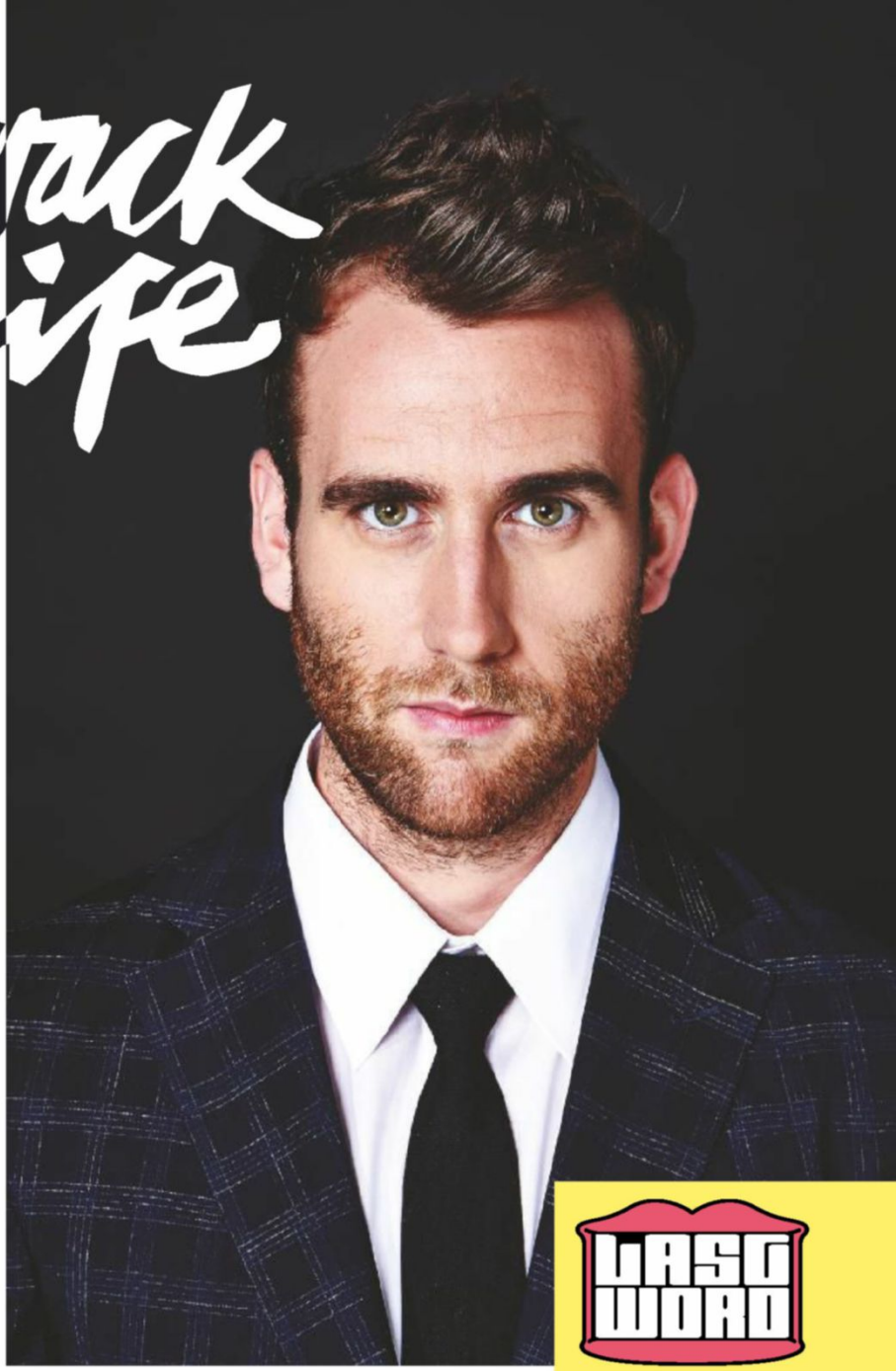
Soundtrack of my life

Matthew Lewis



***Harry Potter*'s Neville Longbottom, of course**

THE FIRST SONG I REMEMBER HEARING

BARRY WHITE

You're The First, The Last, My Everything

"I remember hearing it on the radio in the living room and being told it was my parents' wedding song. It's the intro that really gets me – when it's building up and he comes in with that beautifully deep voice."

THE FIRST SONG I FELL IN LOVE WITH

THE BEATLES

All You Need Is Love

"For the first few years of filming *Harry Potter*, we travelled around a lot by minibus and I played this on repeat. It might not be as clever as some of Lennon's other stuff, but when I was a kid it really got to me."

THE FIRST GIG I WENT TO

OASIS

City Of Manchester Stadium

"It was amazing. To be in their cultural home watching them and being surrounded by all the guys who were there in '94, all dressed in parkas, sunglasses and bucket hats, was just the coolest thing ever."

THE SONG I WANT PLAYED AT MY FUNERAL

GUNS N' ROSES

Don't Cry

"I'd quite like everybody to cry at my funeral and hopefully playing a song that explicitly says don't cry would make everyone a bit emotional if they weren't already."

THE SONG THAT MAKES ME DANCE

WHAM!

Freedom

"Not George Michael's version from 1990, but the 1984 original by Wham! It reminds me of sunshine and instantly puts me in a good mood."

THE SONG THAT CHANGED MY LIFE

THE VERVE

The Drugs Don't Work

"They're always seen as angry working-class blokes with guitars, but there's so much emotion in this song. Every one of Richard Ashcroft's lyrics is so powerful. Even from a young age I thought there was more to their music than just angry rock 'n' roll."

THE SONG I DO AT KARAOKE

THE BEATLES

Twist And Shout

"There's a place called Rising Star at Universal Studios in Florida, and I sang this with Jamie Phelps, who played Fred Weasley in *Harry Potter.* You get a full backing band and the whole bar sits and watches you. I hated every minute of it."

THE SONG I CAN NO LONGER LISTEN TO

KINGS OF LEON

Sex On Fire

"When it first came out I loved it, but it was so played to death that it became unbearable. Every bar you went into that song would be playing. I still think it's a decent tune, but I can't listen to it anymore."

***Drunk History* is on Comedy Central, Wednesdays at 10pm**

GO TO NME.COM FOR MORE SOUNDTRACKS

LASTWORD

The wisdom of the *NME* archives

THIS WEEK

MISSY ELLIOTT

Hip-hop hero

March 31, 2001

"I'm the most humble person you'll run into. Unless you cross me."

INTERVIEW BY: ALEX FLOOD. PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES, REX FEATURES